



**A Weekly Journal of the Chemical and Drug Trades
and of
British Pharmacists throughout the Empire,
ESTABLISHED 1859.**

The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is the leading journal addressing the chemical and drug trades of the British Empire. It is adopted as an official journal by nineteen Chemists' Societies in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa and the West Indies, and its paid-in-advance circulation in Great Britain and all Countries having business relations with the British Empire is intrinsically and numerically unique.

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TO OUR READERS.

THE production and delivery of our Winter Issue were somewhat delayed owing to the dispute in the printing trade. For the same reason the present issue is altered, in some respects, from our weekly issues, and should any delay in its delivery occur, we trust that our friends will continue the indulgence which they have already shown. The dispute is one to which we are not parties, and this is the first occasion in the history of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST that we have had to make an explanation of this nature. Everyone connected with this journal regrets that the occasion has now arisen.

Summary of this Issue.

The more notable items only are dealt with.

Articles and Communications.

Mr. D. Dunnet gives some practical hints on the making of compressed tablets (p. 66).

The manner in which shop-hours legislation has worked out in the Transvaal, especially as regards chemists, is told in an article on p. 59.

We discuss existing laws (Canadian and Continental) dealing with the repetition of prescriptions containing toxic medicines (p. 51).

The history of the Government Laboratory from the point of view of the analysts therein is well epitomised by a correspondent on pp. 62 and 63.

Xrayser II. thinks highly of our Winter Issue, and gives some points about the Winehester and Corbyn quarts and Mr. Maben's Curriculum proposals (p. 49).

The mild revolt against the Proprietary Articles Trade Association is fully discussed in an article beginning on p. 51. A correspondent also writes on the subject (p. 62).

The Commissioners of Inland Revenue are now more strict in regard to income tax returns, accounts being required from those who make their living as traders. See the article on p. 52.

The Week's News

The Canadian Dominion Parliament is considering a Bill to prevent repetition of cocaine prescriptions (p. 59).

The dinner to Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones was an exceptional success from the point of view of representation and speeches. See the report on pp. 54-56.

An action against a Birkenhead chemist in respect to the sale of sweet spirit of nitre has failed on a warranty defence, but it is interesting also as bringing out evidence as to the changeability of the spirit (p. 57).

Mr. Edmund White, a member of the Pharmaceutical Council and of the B.P. Committee of Reference in Pharmacy has resigned the latter position as a protest, he says, against certain conduct of the General Medical Council (p. 47).

The report of the Registrar under the Pharmacy Acts of Great Britain is epitomised on p. 45. It includes numerous particulars of the prosecutions in 1911, and of the state of the Registers of chemists and druggists, pharmaceutical chemists, and the Society's adherents.

The Curriculum proposals are still being received by local Associations in a mixed manner. About half-a-dozen of this week's reports indicate distinct hostility or indisposition to support a Curriculum forthwith. See the Cambridge and Plymouth reports on p. 60. Mr. Rymer Young has informed the Blackpool chemists that the scheme is to go through (p. 41). We cannot discuss the subject this week, but ask all interested to keep this threat in mind. At the Pharmaceutical Council meeting on Wednesday several members explained that the Council had not given a lead to the country on the matter, but the whole subject was reserved for full discussion in April. Local Associations and teachers are to be asked to send in their opinions before March 15 (p. 47).

Trade and Market Matters.

Price-alterations in the markets, which are fairly numerous, include an advance in quicksilver (seconds), English refined camphor, opium, wood-oil, styrax, turpentine, and carbolates. Lycopodium cantharides, and benzols are firmer. Castor, star-anise, and linaloe oils and arsenic are easier. Shellac is lower (p. 42).

GAZETTE.

Partnership Dissolved.

DALY, F. H. and F. J. P., surgeons, etc., Amherst Road and Upper Clapton Road, London, N.E., under the style of Daly & Daly.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATION.

COLLINGS, JOHN CHARLES, Plymouth, veterinary surgeon.

C

ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

A waggon laden with carboys of vitriol broke in two while proceeding down a hill at Ossett (Yorks) on January 26. Happily none of the carboys were broken.

On Thursday, January 26, the Nottingham Thursday United Football Club won the third round in the Thursday Cup by beating Marsden's United one goal to nil.

The Accrington medical dispensary, established a few years ago, has now a membership of 1,780. At the annual meeting on January 26 it was mentioned that a sum of nearly 250*l.* had been spent in drugs, etc., during the year.

The Evans Collection of Lambeth and other pottery is to be sold by auction at Christie's on February 14. It includes a large number of drug-pots, early dishes with the arms of the Apothecaries' Co., and various pill-slabs.

The bursting of a gas cylinder at the aerated-water works of Messrs. A. J. Caley & Sons, Chenies Street, London, W.C., shattered a window and knocked down several men. A workman on the floor above was injured on the head by flying pieces of concrete from the floor.

The sum of 25,000*l.* required for the purchase of the site for the new chemical laboratories at the University College, London, has been completed by a gift of 4,500*l.* from Mr. Ralph C. Forster, of Messrs. Bessler, Waechter & Co., merchants, Salisbury House, London, E.C.

Mr. S. G. Bartlett, chemist and druggist, Jewry Street, Winchester, writes to the "Hampshire Chronicle" a vigorous reply to the Hampshire Medical Officer's references in his annual report to unqualified practice of medicine (see *C. & D.*, January 21, p. 87). Mr. Bartlett points out that chemists fulfil important functions in guarding the public against promiscuous drug-taking and advising that medical men should be called in.

Over 1,200 medical men from the chief provincial cities of England and Wales visited the bovril factories in Old Street, London, on Thursday, January 26. They were received by the Earl of Errol, K.T., C.B., Sir James Crichton Browne, M.D., and other directors, and inspected the process of manufacturing and packing bovril and its preparations, also being entertained to luncheon. The company give periodical receptions of this nature, and they must have a beneficial influence on the sale of bovril.

Mr. H. K. Woodward, chemist, 7 Bull Green, Halifax, had the plate-glass window of his pharmacy broken on January 27 through a passing dray swerving and sending the rear portion of a load of timber through the window. Mr. Woodward, who was the victim of a window-smash last March, rose to the occasion by issuing the following poster: "Another smash. Our window is evidently too attractive. Notice to horses: Please keep off the glass."

At the meeting of the Holywell Guardians on January 27 it was pointed out that the drug-bill had risen from 18*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* in 1901 to 52*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* in 1910. A motion that the medical officer draw up a price-list of drugs and that tenders be invited for a six months' supply as required was carried. The Finance Committee had also drawn attention to the cost of bandages for the quarter (6*l.* 15*s.*), and it was decided to ascertain whether some of the bandages could not be made in the workhouse.

At the annual meeting of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Council of Grocers' Associations, held at Cardiff on January 26, during a discussion on the prices of bovril, Mr. C. P. Deverall (Cardiff) said he was very much surprised to hear that vendors were unanimous in Swansea in regard to the prices of bovril. In all big towns they had the difficulty of cutting prices to contend with, chemists quoting 6*l*. 1*d.*, 11*l*. 2*d.*, 1*s.*, 2*s.* 11*d.*, and 4*s.* 10*d.*, and these prices were not remunerative. At Cardiff the chemists had fallen into line with the grocers, and this Council ought to use every endeavour to get the same unanimity throughout South Wales.

Turin Exhibition.

The British Section at the Turin Exhibition, which opens on April 29, promises to be one of the principal attractions. In marked contrast to the exhibits at Brussels it is intended to vary as much as possible the manner of displaying the goods. In the Chemical Section, specially organised by Dr. F. Mollwo Perkin, there will be practical demonstrations of the uses of various chemical and physical apparatus, while it is expected that there will be at least two well-equipped chemical laboratories in actual working order. There are to be large rooms containing exhibits of chemicals and apparatus not in use, and another of similar size will be devoted to scientific instruments.

Insects and Disease.

The quarterly meeting of the Earl of Cromer's Committee, which was appointed some time ago by the Earl of Crewe to further the study of economic entomology, with special reference to Africa, was held at the Colonial Office on January 26. The committee had before it the plans which have been prepared for the despatch to America of the first three gentlemen who have been selected under the terms of the gift made by Mr. Carnegie of 1,000*l.* to study the question of tropical diseases in the United States. It was also reported that the two Government-trained collectors—Messrs. Simpson and Neave—are still at work, the former in Nigeria and the latter in Nyassaland, and that Mr. Simpson will make a tour through Gambia before returning to this country, leaving the Gold Coast and Sierra Leone for a subsequent journey. The interest of the Colonial Governors and other officials in the various protectorates and colonies is also being enlisted in order that the best possible information may be placed at the disposal of the home authorities. The results of the combined investigations are published from time to time in the "Bulletin," which is issued under the direction of Lord Cromer's Committee.

Institute of Chemistry.

At the January examinations nine candidates presented themselves for the Intermediate examination, of whom the following six passed: J. Crawford, J. C. Earl, H. J. Evans, W. R. Pratt, D. C. Scott, and G. E. Slim. Of twenty-six candidates who presented themselves for the Final examination eighteen passed in the following branches: *Mineral Chemistry*—W. C. Davis, W. H. H. Norris, B.A. (Cantab.), B.Sc. (Lond.), and R. W. Pope; *Physical Chemistry*—W. R. G. Atkins, B.A. (Dub.), and Bucchok Shen, B.Sc. (Birm.); *Organic Chemistry*—W. Caw, J. C. Duff, B.Sc. (Manc.), A. Greeves, A.R.C.S. (Lond.), B.Sc. (Lond.), W. H. Nodder, B.Sc. (Lond.), T. A. Smith, and T. A. Wallace, B.A. (Dub.); *Chemistry of Food and Drugs and of Water*—W. H. Dickinson, M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), captain I.M.S., H. D. Elkington, R. H. Ellis, A. D. Heywood, and E. H. Shepherd, B.Sc. (Lond.); *Biological Chemistry*—J. Crabtree, B.Sc. (Manc.). Captain Dickinson was examined for the Fellowship. One Fellow, R. W. Clarke, also obtained the certificate in the Chemistry of Food and Drugs and of Water. Of the above, Mr. Herbert John Evans, Ph.C., only son of Mr. John Evans, High Sheriff, Haverfordwest, was a student at the School of Pharmacy, Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., and at University College, Aberystwyth; Mr. A. D. Heywood, who is the younger son of Mr. J. H. Heywood, J.P., Ph.C., of Southend-on-Sea, studied at University College, London, and under Messrs. Muter and Hackmim, F.F.I.C., of the South London Central Public Laboratory.

Cod-liver Oil for School Children.

At the sitting of the London County Council Education Committee last week the Children's Care Sub-Committee reported on the question of the supply in cases of special necessity for delicate and necessitous children of an additional "meal" of cod-liver oil. While the rule has been in operation some time, no decision has been come to with regard to the sum to be recovered from parents for the same, and the committee now advises that the Council be recommended to fix a charge of 1*d.* per week for cod-liver oil as the sum which may be recovered.

Private Meeting.

The creditors of Mr. W. C. Evans, chemist, 7 Aylestone Road, Leicester, were called together last week, when a statement was presented showing liabilities of 527*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* The indebtedness to the trade was 137*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.*, and the balance of 390*l.* was in respect of cash claims. The assets were estimated to realise 135*l.*, from which had to be deducted 22*l.* for preference claims, leaving net assets of 113*l.*, or a deficiency of 414*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* The assets consisted of stock-in-trade at cost 127*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.*, expected to produce 85*l.*; and fixtures 100*l.*, valued at 50*l.* It was explained that the principal cash creditor was the debtor's brother-in-law, whose claims amounted to 263*l.*, while Mr. R. Evans was a cash creditor for 85*l.* The balance of the cash claims of 42*l.* was owing to two moneylenders. It was decided that the matter should be dealt with under a deed of assignment. The principal creditors are : Butler & Crispe (21*l.*), Wright, Layman & Umney, Ltd. (10*l.*), E. H. Butler & Son (10*l.*), Howard Lloyd & Co. (6*l.*), W. G. Moore (263*l.*), R. Evans (85*l.*), B. Samuel (34*l.*), and H. A. Jones (8*l.*).

Fires.

An outbreak of fire occurred last week in the window of the shop of Mr. R. Whittaker, chemist and druggist, Railway Approach, Castleton, Lancs. The flames were speedily extinguished and but little damage was done.

A fire broke out at the rear of the lock-up pharmacy of Mr. F. W. Goodman, chemist and druggist, Elphinstone Road, Hastings, on January 30. The flames had secured a good hold before the arrival of the fire-brigade, and much damage was done. The loss is covered by insurance.

A fire broke out at the pharmacy of Mr. J. A. White, chemist and druggist, Bradford Road, Shipley, on January 27. The flames, which it is thought originated among a quantity of cotton-wool in an attic store-room, were soon extinguished by the local fire-brigade. The damage, which is covered by insurance, is estimated at about 200*l.*

Society of Apothecaries of London.

At the Assistants' examination held in January the following candidates were granted the certificate of qualification to act as an assistant to an apothecary in compounding and dispensing medicines :

Attwooll, I. A.	Illsley, K. A.	Robertson, L. V.
Berrington, H.M.	Isaacs, M.	Saxby, M. M. C.
Bird, M. L.	Latimer, M. C.	Scott, T. A.
Close, A. M.	Louch, J. A.	Shepherd, G. M.
Collins, C. E.	Lucas, G. E. M.	Slater, B. L.
de Faye, G. K.	Nelson, E. B.	Standing, A. J. G.
Durnford, S. C.	Orthmann, A. M.	Tyler, I.
Evans, O. J.	Paterson, M.	Whittingslow,
Everill, D. F.	Perry, G. M.	Williams, M.
Game, L. G.	Potter, A. M.	Wilson, M. G.
Hull, M. A.	Potts, A. E. B.	Winter, K. D.

Birmingham Notes.

A local committee in connection with the Chemical Industry Exhibition at the Agricultural Hall, London, in May next, is being formed in Birmingham.

Sir Thomas Barclay, Ph.C., at the Tynesiders' Birmingham Reunion on Saturday last in an excellent speech lamented the decline in public spirit, which, he said, is noticeable among the rising generations, who shorten their busy day for golf and bridge.

There are several canine medicine-men among pharmacy in Birmingham, and their hearts were gladdened and their pockets fattened by a visit of the world's dog-fanciers to the fine Dog Exhibition held at the Bingley Hall last week. Mr. F. Barlow secured several prizes with his special breed of collies.

Mr. J. F. Liverseege, F.I.C., Ph.C., analyst for Birmingham, in his quarterly report, states that four of the five informal samples bought as compound-rhubarb powder were practically of the correct composition. The fifth contained 60 per cent. of magnesium carbonate. A subsequent formal sample was bought under the name of Gregory's powder. It contained 80 per cent. of magnesium carbonate. The vendor (not a qualified pharmacist) was prosecuted, and fined 10*s.*, and 11*s.* costs. Informal samples of magnesia, borax, and white-precipitate oint-

ment obtained at this shop were all found to be adulterated. Eleven out of the fifteen samples of white-precipitate ointment contained about the proportion of active ingredient. One sample was zinc ointment. One sample contained 13.4 per cent. of ammoniated mercury ; others 7.1, 8.6, and 6 per cent. Three of the six informal samples of borax contained small quantities of arsenic. The vendors were not qualified pharmacists. Four samples of boric acid were genuine and two adulterated (arsenic contamination). Five of the six informal samples of saltpetre were almost free from lead.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

The Lambeth analyst reported on the following samples during the past quarter : Mustard 7, pepper 6, cream of tartar 1, tartaric acid 1, milk of sulphur 1, and vinegar 1. All were genuine.

The East Riding analyst, in his quarterly report, states that ten samples of camphorated oil were examined, and that three were reported against as follows : (1) contained 15 per cent. of cottonseed oil and was 2.56 per cent. deficient in camphor ; (2) 6.25 per cent. deficient in camphor—both vendors were cautioned ; (3) containing 30 per cent. of lard oil and only 10.5 per cent. of camphor. A fine of 10*s.*, with 3*s.* costs, was imposed in this case.

Contracts.

High Wycombe Town Council.—Miss R. K. Spencer, High Wycombe, appointed chemist to the hospital for the ensuing year.

Oakengates (Salop) Town Council.—Mr. A. S. Kitching, chemist and druggist, of Market Street, Oakengates, for the supply of diphtheria antitoxic serum (in tubes of 2,000 units), at 2*s.* 9*d.* per tube, for one year.

Poison-licences.

The Margate Town Council have renewed the poison-licence held by G. & A. Clark, Ltd., nurserymen.

Mr. Gilbert Beale has applied for a poison-licence for James Carter & Co., seed-merchants, Raynes Park, London, W.

Mr. Walter Thomas Uwins, wood-broker and horticultural sundriesman, of 69 Portland Road, South Norwood, has applied for a poison-licence to the Croydon Town Council.

Mr. Moir, of Bees, Ltd., 517 Lord Street, Southport, and Mr. Percy Frankland Elliott, 111A Eastbank Street, Southport, have applied for poison-licences to the local Town Council.

In Various Courts.

At the West London Police Court on January 27, James Nicoll was committed for trial on a charge of the theft of eighteen dozen bottles of "Embrocine," etc. (*C. & D.*, January 28, p. 105). Bail was allowed in the sum of 450*l.*

At Wimbledon on January 19, James Starkey, errand-boy, employed by Durbin's Drug-stores, Ltd., of 50 Th Broadway, Wimbledon, who was brought up on remand on a charge of stealing (*C. & D.*, January 21, p. 70), was discharged with a caution.

At the Clerkenwell Police Court on January 21, Alfred Hanley (25), warehouseman, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment for stealing goods, value 4*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*, from his employers, Messrs. Butler & Crispe, druggists' sundriesmen, 82 Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C.

At Liverpool on January 28, a verdict of suicide while temporarily insane was returned at the inquest on John Collins (64), aerated-water manufacturer, who threw himself out of a window thirty feet above the ground. It was stated that deceased had been connected with some recent proceedings in regard to syphons.

At the Clerkenwell Police Court on January 28, George Allerton (22), optician's assistant, was remanded on a charge of attempting to steal, by means of a trick, gold-rimmed spectacles, value 8*l.*, from Messrs. J. B. Jacquemin Bros., of Hatton Garden, London, E.C. It was alleged that the goods were ordered by accused through the telephone in the name of Messrs. Newbold & Bulford, of Goswell Road, E.C. A similar charge, made

in respect to spectacles value 6*l.*, was preferred by the latter firm.

At the Lambeth Police Court on January 30, Jerome Rahilly was summoned "for wilfully interfering with the comfort of passengers" on a tramcar belonging to the London County Council by burning camphor. The tramcar conductor said that defendant, in spite of being warned twice, persisted in burning camphor. The defendant said that no one complained when he inquired if he was causing any discomfort. He just lit a corner of a penny square of camphor, blew it out again, and inhaled it. The Magistrate (Mr. Hopkins): "Is it possible you didn't think you were a nuisance to others? There is a very much better thing which we may not burn in trams, and that is tobacco. Next, I suppose, it will be cayenne pepper." A fine of 10*s.*, with 10*s.* costs to the County Council, was imposed.

IRISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

BREVITIES.

A drayman in the employ of Messrs. Mooney, wine-merchants, Dublin, has died after having accidentally placed some glacial acetic acid in his mouth. A fellow-workman has been arrested and charged with having caused the accident, which is stated to have followed a practical joke.

Judgment was given by Mr. Swift, magistrate, at the Dublin Police Court, on January 27, in a case where a publican was charged with having sold as cider a liquid (Rutter's cider) which did not answer that description. A fine of 40*s.* was imposed, the Magistrate holding that a notice on the label did not protect the seller.

Sir Wm. Whitla, L.P.S.I., and Mr. Jas. Guiler, Ph.C., Ormeau Road, Belfast, have been elected on the committee which has been appointed to erect a memorial to the late Dr. W. B. McQuitty, who died suddenly in Belfast on December 30. Sir Wm. Whitla has also been appointed a vice-president of the Ulster Branch of the Royal Life-Saving Society.

PERSONAL.

Dr. McWalter, Ph.C., has been elected Chairman of the Markets Committee of the Dublin Corporation.

Mr. John Patrick Timmon, Ph.C., The Medical Hall, Navan, has been re-elected Vice-Chairman of the Navan Urban District Council for the ensuing year.

On January 28, at the Royal College of Surgeons, Mr. J. Mather Thomson, Ph.C., was entertained to dinner by the President and Council on the occasion of his winning the Barker prize for anatomy.

Mr. Josiah R. Middleton, J.P., registered druggist (M'Master, Hodgson & Co.), Capel Street, Dublin, has resigned the superintendence of the Clontarf Presbyterian Sunday School after a service of over twelve years.

An interesting contest was announced in the Christmas number of "Nash's Magazine" in which twenty-five prizes were offered for the best sets of six original catch-phrases adaptable to any of the advertisements appearing in that issue. The result is published in the February number, and Dr. A. Barnes, Ph.C., Dublin, heads the list of winners, capturing the first prize, which is a billiard-table. Dr. Barnes' successful entry was as follows: The Gramophone Co., Ltd.: "The *utter-most* in talking machines." Gillott's "Highland" nib: "Scores—but never scratches!" Gillette razor: "Like its user, never loses its temper." Jason hosiery: "For better understanding." Mackintosh's toffee: "Brings happiness when 'down in the mouth'!" Knight's "Shavollo" shaving-soap: "She feels it's good!"

PAVING FOR ANALYSES.

At Cookstown Board of Guardians on January 28, Mr. R. F. Blake, analyst, Belfast, wrote pointing out that he received another sample of a drug which he had previously found to be impure, and he found this sample, if anything, worse. He thought that he should not be called upon to make repeated analyses of drugs found to

be impure without some additional fee. The Guardians thought it was reasonable that when a second sample of a drug was found to be impure the cost of the analysis should be borne by the medicine-contractor. The Clerk was directed to bring the matter under the notice of the Local Government Board.

ACTION AGAINST BELFAST CHEMIST.

The hearing of the action brought by William J. Nelson, a baker, against Mr. J. A. Bingham, Ph.C., Donegall Place, Belfast, has been adjourned until the next sessions of the Recorder's Court in Belfast for the convenience of counsel. The case was in the jury-list for this week, and will not be heard for several weeks. The action, which has been remitted from the King's Bench Division, has been brought to recover damages for personal injuries alleged to have been sustained by the plaintiff through having swallowed a poison said to have been negligently supplied to him by the defendant.

Fires.

On January 27 an outbreak of fire occurred at the premises of the North of Ireland Chemical-works, 56 Bond Street, Belfast, owned by Mr. J. H. Lytle. The fire attained considerable dimensions before it was extinguished, and the machinery was damaged by the flames.

A disastrous fire broke out on January 25, on the premises of Messrs. Fee Bros., chemists and druggists, Main Street, Ballybay, as a result of which the entire block of buildings, which include also a drapery warehouse and two public-houses, was burnt down. The fire seems to have originated in the rear of Messrs. Fee's premises, and fortunately all those in the building were rescued before the fire reached the upper storey. There is no fire-brigade in the town, but willing helpers, passing along buckets of water, did all they could to stay the progress of the flames. The total damage done is estimated at between 4,000*l.* and 5,000*l.* The whole block of buildings was the property of Messrs. Fee Bros., and was insured.

SCOTTISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

BREVITIES.

Bailie Donald McD. Skinner, chemist, Oban, has been elected to the vacancy of Provostship in the Burgh.

Mr. Peter McHardy, seedsman, 46 Green, Aberdeen, has intimated his intention of applying for a poison-licence.

Dundee chemists are being invited to place collecting-boxes in their shops for the Dundee Sick-Poor Nursing Society.

It is said that Boots, Ltd., have taken the premises at corner of Overgate and High Street, Dundee. [We may recall Sir Jesse Boot's statement to the *C. & D.* a few months ago denying these rumours as regards Scotland.—EDITOR *C. & D.*]

There has been a long correspondence in the Dundee newspapers on the proposed Early Closing Order, and it has not been altogether good-tempered. Following upon it Mr. James Adamson, President of the Assistants' Association, has intimated his resignation.

Mr. Andrew Craig, jun., has disposed of the chemist's business carried on by him at 210 Gallowgate, Aberdeen, to Mr. James Reith McHattie, late of Torphins, and latterly in Dundee. Mr. Craig, who has been in rather delicate health lately, is retiring from business.

The hearing of the evidence in the slander actions by Edward Gordon, chemist, Kelty, and Dr. Sanjana, Kelty, against each other, commenced on January 26, when a Mrs. Murray gave evidence on behalf of Gordon. It was to the effect that Dr. Sanjana told her to get Fellows' syrup. She went to Gordon's shop. He apologised for not being able to give her an original bottle, and sold her a shilling's worth from his dispensing-bottle. Afterwards Dr. Sanjana said it was not Fellows' syrup, and took the bottle away with him, in spite of her protests to get it analysed by the Fellows' Co. Mrs. Murray's evidence had been expedited as she is leaving for America. Sheriff Umpherston will commence the general hearing on February 20 at Dunfermline.

Edinburgh.

Business has been very slow in most quarters since the year opened, the mild winter and the absence of an influenza epidemic being responsible for the lack of seasonable ailments.

The Edinburgh Anti-Opium Committee, which has repeatedly called the attention of the Government to the morphine-trade, has received a note from the Board of Trade regarding specifications in the monthly returns of imports and exports of morphine, as notified in the *C. & D.*, January 14, p. 59.

The chemists in a certain district have been in a state of terror recently over a rumour that a large limited company intended opening another branch in a shop that has been standing vacant for some time. This shop bears above the doorway "—'s Boot Stores," and in this manner the rumour—for such it appears to be—may have gained believers among customers in the neighbourhood.

The drug-department of St. Cuthbert's Co-operative Store, Ltd., has issued a revised list of hours for Sundays. These came into force on February 1. The full list is as follows :

On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays the branches will be open from 9 A.M. to 7 P.M.

On Tuesdays from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.

On Fridays and Saturdays from 9 A.M. to 8 P.M.

On Sundays only the Bread Street establishment will be opened, and that only in the evenings from 6 to 8 P.M. The other branches will remain closed, and prescriptions which have been dispensed in any of these can only be dispensed at Bread Street on Sunday evenings if the scrip is presented.

BIRTH.

BINGHAM.—At 1 Ashley Avenue, Belfast, on February 1, the wife of J. A. Bingham, Ph.C., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BARR—MCLEAN.—At Newry on January 26, Robert Barr, manager for Messrs. S. Connor & Sons, Hill Street, to Esther, youngest daughter of Mrs. McClean, late of the Athenaeum, Newry and Warrenpoint.

COOKE—MFARLAND.—At First Presbyterian Church, Omagh, on January 17, by the Rev. A. Macafee, James E. Cooke, youngest son of N. Cooke, Gorey, to Lil, fourth daughter of Mrs. McFarland, Omagh.

DEATHS.

ALCOCK.—At 23 Wolstenholme Road, Sheffield, on January 18, Mr. Walter Alcock, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-one.

HAMES.—At Westdown, Ilfracombe, recently, Mr. John Hames, chemist and druggist, for many years in business at Braunton, North Devon, aged eighty-six.

ROYLE.—At St. Albans, Walm Lane, Cricklewood, London, N.W., on January 30, Mr. Henry William Royle, managing director of Messrs. Ingram & Royle, Ltd., East St. Paul's Wharf, 26 Upper Thames Street, London, E.C., aged sixty-one. Mr. Royle had suffered from bronchial trouble for some years, and although he was at a meeting at Brighton on the Thursday before his death, a chill he contracted led to a recurrence of the bronchitis which ended fatally. Mr. Royle joined the firm—Ingram & Co., as it then was—in 1868, being taken in as a partner a few years later. He became head of the company on Mr. Ingram's decease in 1881. The business was turned into a limited company in 1895. Mr. Royle leaves two sons and three daughters, the former of whom—Messrs. H. I. Royle and P. O. Royle—are in the business.

TUCK.—At 12 High Street, Hornsey, London, N., Mr. George Frederick Tuck, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-one.

POISONING FATALITIES.

FIFTEEN deaths, including five by misadventure, have been reported since Wednesday of last week :

Belladonna.—At Reading, William James Gee, biscuit-factory labourer, intentionally poisoned himself by taking a liniment containing belladonna.

Carbolic Acid.—Elizabeth Roberts (20), domestic servant, died in Bootle Hospital from carbolic-acid poisoning.—Another Liverpool servant, named Mary Elizabeth Williams (17), ended her life by taking the same poison.—"Felo de se" was the verdict returned at the inquest on Anne Bagge (20), Old Trafford, Manchester, who poisoned herself with carbolic acid.

Disinfectant.—At Dartford the death by misadventure of John Malprass was caused by drinking disinfectant in mistake for beer. It transpired at the inquest that the container (a beer-bottle) bore no label. Robert Penfold, storekeeper to the Urban District Council, by which deceased was employed, stated that he had had no official intimation that the fluid was poisonous. The Council's surveyor (Mr. E. Tiffin) deposed that the liquid was "Adcock's Disinfectant." It was not scheduled as a poison, and he did not know that it contained 3 per cent. of carbolic acid, but he knew that it was corrosive. Dr. Renton said he was not prepared to swear that the disinfectant contained more than 5 per cent. of carbolic acid. It contained about 20 per cent. of other tar acids, the mixture probably being more deadly than one containing even more than 3 per cent. of carbolic acid. The Coroner said the question whether the vessels in which the disinfectant was kept should be labelled "Poison" would have to be left to a higher authority.

Laudanum.—The ten-weeks-old son of a Mansfield collier, named Charles Hancock, died in consequence of laudanum being administered in mistake for some "Infant's Friend." The mother explained at the inquest that she had broken a bottle containing laudanum while dusting, and had poured the remainder of the contents into the "Infant's Friend" bottle, which was empty. The father, not being aware of the change, had given the infant a teaspoonful of the opiate.

Mercurial-poisoning caused the death at the Anlaby Road Workhouse, Hull, of John FitzGibbons (19), coloured seaman. At the inquest it was stated that deceased said he took some mercurial tablets used for making antiseptic solutions from a table in the ward where he had been lying. The workhouse master, in reply to the Coroner's question as to if he was aware that there was no lock on the poison-cupboard in that room, said: It is not a poison-cupboard; it is really a wardrobe in the recess. The Hulton Buildings were used as an overflow hospital owing to the crowded state of the house. The Coroner: You had no idea there was poison there?—No. The Coroner said it was probable that the man had not got the tablets from the table, and possibly had taken them from the cupboard, which, of course, it would have been better if locked up. A verdict of suicide while of unsound mind was returned.

Potassium Cyanide was the agent used to ensure self-destruction by Harry Vedcock Cottle (49), clerk, South Kensington.

Potassium Permanganate was used for suicidal purposes by Rhoda Bambury (19) at Bristol.

Prussic Acid.—At the inquiry held at Southend-on-Sea into the death of Mr. F. R. Dudderidge, Ph.C. (*C. & D.*, January 28, p. 111), the jury returned a verdict that deceased took prussic acid while suffering from the depressing effects of bromide. It was stated during the evidence that Mr. Dudderidge had been taking large doses of potassium bromide to ward off epileptic fits from which he had suffered during the past six years.

Veronal.—At Walton-on-Thames, Rose Rogers (58) died from an overdose of this hypnotic. The same drug was responsible for the suicidal death of Katherine D. F. Potter (42), of Fairmead Road, London, N., who had been subpoenaed in connection with an alleged illegal operation.

Weed-killer.—Patrick William Roche (27), student, died at Dundee from the effects of drinking weed-killer by mistake.

Kind Not Stated.—Mary Inard died at Camberwell from the effects of some poison taken intentionally.—At Sheffield, Bernard Dunn (10) was poisoned by drinking from a bottle labelled "Hop-bitters," which he found at the back of a stall in the Norfolk Market Hall. Corrosive-acid poisoning was apparently the cause of death.

BROMINE IN U.S.A.—The production during 1910 amounted to 850,000 lb., as compared with 1,100,000 lb. in 1909.

"**AUXILIUM MEDICI**" is the name applied by a German firm to peroxide of hydrogen containing 0.1 per cent. of phosphoric acid to assure stability of the solution.

LEGAL REPORTS.

TRADE LAW.

VAPORISER DISPUTE.—In the City of London Court last week, before Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., an action was brought by the Kosmos Trading Co., Ltd., 94 Cannon Street, against the South Bermondsey Electric Theatre, Rotherhithe New Road, to recover 27. 8s. for a vaporiser and essence supplied. Plaintiffs said they received an order for the vaporiser by telephone, and it was duly sent. When they sent for the money they found the vaporiser had been used and was in a very bad condition. Defendants' manager said the vaporiser was never ordered. The Judge, however, found for the plaintiffs, with costs.

A SURGEON OVERWHELMED WITH JUDGMENTS.—In the Shoreditch County Court, before Judge Bray on January 26, Messrs. C. J. Hewlett & Son, Ltd., 40 Charlotte Street, E.C., wholesale druggists, were the plaintiffs in a judgment summons against Arthur Crapp, surgeon, 66-68 Dawes Road, Fulham, to recover 19*l.* Mr. Dunn, for the plaintiff, said judgment was given, but the defendant obtained leave for a fresh trial on paying 10*l.* into court. At the new trial they received judgment for the full amount, and this 19*l.* claimed was the balance of the debt and costs. The defendant wrote to say he was overwhelmed with judgments, and was waiting to get the money to file his petition, and offered 3*s.* or 4*s.* a month. Mr. Dunn pressed for a large order, and his Honour said he would make an order for 5*s.* a month for what it was worth, with no committal.

LIMITED COMPANIES.

New Companies Registered.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

KAPELLA, LTD. (P.C.). Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of makers of and dealers in scientific instruments, photographic and other lenses, and optical apparatus, etc. The subscribers are: H. Ellis, W. Taylor, W. S. Hobson, W. B. Appleton, and C. B. Taylor, all of Leicester.

MAGADI SODA CO., LTD.—Capital 1,312,500*l.*. Objects: To carry on the business of dealers in soda products and alkalies, etc., to acquire lands, etc., in the British East Africa Protectorate, Uganda, or elsewhere, and certain agreements connected therewith. The first directors are L. Samuel, W. H. Samuel, W. H. Levy, A. E. Herz, Ph.D., L. Reversbach, Lieut.-Colonel C. H. Villiers, H. M. Simons, and S. H. Pollen.

Company News.

BOVRIL, LTD.—The report for 1910 states that the net profit amounts to 124,744*l.*, while the balance brought forward was 12,245*l.*, together 136,990*l.*. The directors recommend a balance dividend of 7 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares and of 2 per cent. per annum on the deferred shares, transferring to reserve (raising it to 190,000*l.*) 7,500*l.*, and leaving 11,900*l.* to be carried forward. The Earl of Arran has resigned his seat on the Board owing to increased military duties. The business of Viro, Ltd., continues to progress, and the company has commenced to pay dividends.

W. D. MORRIS, LTD.—The petition of Butler & Crispe for the compulsory winding-up of W. D. Morris, Ltd., came before Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady in the Chancery Division of the High Court, London, on Tuesday, January 31. Counsel for the company asked for an adjournment for fourteen days. He said that one of the businesses had been sold, and there would be a surplus of about 200*l.*, and the object of the adjournment was to complete the matter. Counsel for the petitioning creditors did not oppose, and the petition accordingly stood over for a fortnight.

G. B. KENT & SONS, LTD.—The annual report for the year ending September 30, 1910, states that after allowing for bad and doubtful debts, depreciation, etc., there is a balance of profit of 10,655*l.*, to which has to be added 419*l.*, balance brought forward. On the other hand, there are to be deducted interest on mortgages and loans, income-tax, and directors' fees, also interim dividend on the preference shares duly paid, leaving a balance of 6,531*l.* for distribution; out of this it is proposed to pay a dividend of 2½ per cent. on the ordinary shares, absorbing 6,102*l.*, and leaving 429*l.* to be carried forward.

TASKER KEYS & CO., LTD.—At the Edmonton County Court on January 30, before Judge Tindal Atkinson, the

public examination was held of Tasker Spence Keys, managing director of Tasker Keys & Co., Ltd., chemists and druggists, 407 High Road, Tottenham, against which company a winding-up order was made by the Court on March 7, 1910. Mr. W. W. Tilley appeared for the witness. The statement of affairs with reference to the company showed liabilities amounting to 280*l.*, and, as the Official Receiver observed, certain assets. The witness said that the company was incorporated in May 1905 to take over the business, which he agreed to sell for 500*l.* The principal shareholder was a Mr. Henry Payne, who now held the minute-book of the company. The Official Receiver said that all communications he had sent to Mr. Payne at any address have been returned. The witness said that Payne was instructed by the board of directors to sell the business, and after it had been in the market a considerable time witness's wife purchased it for 300*l.* in October 1909. The money was paid to Mr. Payne. The Official Receiver asked: Is there any such person as Payne in existence? and witness said there was. The Official Receiver suggested that Keys is Payne; but witness denied this, as also the further suggestion that the assets of the company had never been legally assigned to Mrs. Keys, and that she had no claim to them now. The examination was adjourned.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. HERBERT JONES, chemist and druggist, has opened a pharmacy at Kenfig Hill, Bridgend, Glam.

MR. ROBERT DOUGLAS WREATHALL, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business of Mr. H. Bartlett Day at York, Western Australia.

MR. V. E. W. DIXON has opened, at Victoria Buildings, Southgate, Elland, Yorks, a pharmacy which has been fitted by Messrs. Ayrton-Graham, Ltd., Liverpool.

MESSRS. GRIFFITHS & CO., wholesale chemists and druggists, Valparaíso, announce that they have converted their business into a limited company under the style of Messrs. Griffiths & Prentice.

MESSES. AGOSTINO BATTAGLINI & FIGLI, essential-oil exporters, Palermo, announce that they have appointed Messrs. Berenger Frères, Ltd., 78 Southwark Street, London, S.E., their sole agents in the United Kingdom.

BANKRUPTCY REPORTS.

RE JOHN SMITH, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Chemist.—This debtor filed his own petition, his accounts showing net liabilities 484*l.*, 10*s.* 8*d.*, and estimated assets 366*l.*, 18*s.* 7*d.* He went to St. Leonards from Liverpool in 1901 with 700*l.* of clear capital, buying the present premises for 900*l.* Complications as to the lease arising, he lost heavily, and the business dwindled to 500*l.* or 600*l.* a year. The present crisis was determined by the landlord distraining for rent—212*l.* 10*s.* year.

RE GEORGE NATHAN SPYRER 129 Sharland Road, Paddington, W.—This debtor was publicly examined on January 31. He was a manufacturing-chemists' traveller, and in 1904 bought a drug-store in Broad Street, Soho, W., for 50*l.*, which a year later he transferred to the manager, having lost on it. In May 1910 he commenced to trade as Cavendish & Co. in making grease-removing preparations. This also failed, and he got into difficulties, being committed to Brixton Prison for debt.

RE THOMAS JOHN LLOYD, Bargoed, Glam., Drug-stores Manager.—The adjourned public examination of this debtor was held before Mr. Registrar Percival Williams at the Merthyr Tydfil Bankruptcy Court on January 30. The previous hearing was reported in the *C. & D.*, January 7, index folio 9. Mr. Ellis Owen, the Official Receiver, submitted in the opening stages that at the last court an order had been made upon debtor to lodge certain accounts. These were not returned to him until the middle of last week, although in fairness to debtor he should say that he (debtor) wrote to him alleging the cause of the delay to have been that his legal adviser had been called away, and debtor had consequently been unable to see him. He had received the accounts now, but not the necessary books and papers to check these, so he did not propose going into these details. He might, however, say for the information of the Court that the statement already lodged failed to account for a considerable sum of money. The debtor was then questioned by Mr. Ellis Owen

in regard to various matters, especially as to his business relations with Mr. Stewart, of Cardiff. Debtor said he was prepared to do anything to have affairs properly arranged, and would do his best to get a list of goods which he had deposited with Mr. Stewart that might now be in his possession. The representatives of a Mr. Phillips in court said they had no questions to put to the debtor at that stage, and the examination was adjourned.

Re Alfred McLaren Post, 96 and 98 Leadenhall Street, London, E.C. Proprietary Medicine Vendor.—This debtor applied to Mr. Registrar Brougham at the London Bankruptcy Court on Friday, January 27, for his order of discharge from the order adjudicating him a bankrupt which was made against him on December 18, 1901. The Assistant Official Receiver (Mr. Boyle) reported that the liabilities to rank for dividend were estimated at 3,964*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*, but that the proofs actually admitted to date were 2,237*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, and the probable claims not yet admitted were 1,754*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*, and that therefore the unsecured indebtedness amounted to 4,042*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* In addition to the total, the debtor returned in his statement of accounts "fully secured" creditors to the amount of 4,251*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*, but the Official Receiver reported that the security held by those creditors was valueless, and that therefore the unsecured indebtedness should be returned at 8,293*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.* The assets, which were estimated by the debtor to produce 4,039*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*, only realised 5*l.*, the balance consisting of shares in a company which proved of no value. The bankrupt (an American subject) from 1884 to 1889 carried on business as a broker in New York, but in 1891 he commenced the sale of a proprietary medicine for the cure of gout, which he put on the market under the name of "Post's C.B.Q." (cure beyond question). The business was not successful, and he came to this country with 50*l.* or 60*l.*, leaving unpaid debts to the amount of 800*l.* behind him. He continued the sale of the medicine in England until February 1896, when he sold the prescription to "A. M. Post, Ltd.", for 45 per cent. of the share issue, and became managing director at a salary of 10*l.* a week. The business of the company was not successful, and a creditor having obtained judgment against the bankrupt in respect of advertisements inserted for the company, filed the petition, on which the receiving order was made. The offences charged were insufficient assets to pay 10*s.* in the pound and trading after knowledge of insolvency. The order of discharge was suspended for two years.

TRADE NOTES.

A RHEUMATIC-FEVER VACCINE is now being made and marketed by Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill, London, E.C., who will be glad to furnish all particulars in regard to it.

SEA-WATER PLASMA.—Messrs. Oppenheimer, Son & Co., Ltd., 179 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., inform us that, owing to the increasing demand for sea-water plasma, they have made arrangements for collection of the water at frequent intervals in the North Sea 200 miles from the shore. The water is then treated in accordance with the directions given by Dr. Robert Simon, of Paris, and they supply it in 30-c.c., 50-c.c., and 100-c.c. aseptics, and in sterilised bottles each containing 8 oz.

RUBBER Goods.—Hot-water bottles and waterproof sheetings are specialities with Messrs. Sheath Bros., of 87 City Road, London, E.C., who will be pleased to forward their price-lists of these lines to chemists upon request. Two qualities are made in the hot-water bottles—the best and a special light quality. The bed sheetings are made in single- or double-faced materials and also in drab twill and check cambries. Messrs. Sheath Bros.' list No. 3 contains the principal indiarubber goods, such as air and hot-water beds, air-cushions, etc., of interest to chemists.

"THE OPTICAL HOUSE OF SCOTLAND" is the title used by Mr. John Baird, Herald Optical Works, 68 and 70 Mitchell Street, Glasgow, in his advertisements which appear in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. Mr. Baird also uses it at the head of a four-page leaflet he has sent us this week which tells of smart ideas for window-dressing, and contains a revised list of gold-filled frames. We are informed that the improved facilities for the jobbing department and increase in his staff, which were made in the autumn, have already resulted in increased business. A revised detailed catalogue is in the hands of the printers and will be issued in a few weeks.

NINI-MUSHA is the name of a new Indian perfume which is made by Messrs. Claude Raynaud et Cie., Grasse, and offered by their sole agents, Messrs. Jules Denoual & Co., Carlton Works, Asylum Road, London, S.E. The odour is described as "fascinating," being of that subtle Oriental composition which is so elusive that one odour after another appears to predominate. The perfume is put up in first-class style, each bottle (cut-glass mushroom stopper) being enclosed in a motor-boat-shaped case resembling in colour old sandalwood. This case is enclosed in an outer, the whole to retail at 2*s.* 9*d.* The perfume costs 23*s.* per dozen, and perfumed cards are sent with each order.

SELF-FRAMING SHOWCARD.—We have received from the British Colour Printing Co., Ltd., 56 Ludgate Hill, London, E.C., a sample of a new showcard prepared for Messrs. G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., 75 Farringdon Road, London, E.C., as an advertisement for "Kent's Best British Brushes." The peculiarity about the showcard is that the frame, which has a handsome bevelled gilt appearance, is made of cardboard, and that the showcard and frame are in one piece. By folding at certain specified places, the whole thing is placed at its best for display-purposes. The saving in packing and carriage on distributing the self-framing cards, which are sent out flat, is considerable. The makers inform us that they will be able soon to supply frames in imitation brown oak, green oak, and other mouldings.

DANTZIC BLACK BEER.—Since we wrote the note on Hobson's Dantzie black beer, which appeared in our Winter Issue, we have had an opportunity of examining samples of the products of Messrs. Joseph Hobson & Son, Dantzie Works, Leeds. The black beer is really a form of extract of malt, but is brilliantly clear, and most pleasant to the palate. Those who are not acquainted with this preparation may be reminded black beer has still an extraordinary vogue in parts of the United Kingdom as a nutritive for invalids or anaemic persons. It is taken in quantities of a wineglassful, either neat or diluted with hot, cold, or aerated water as the occasion calls for. A minor use of black beer is as a gravy-colouring, for which purpose it has advantages over some other materials employed. Black beer is of a syrupy consistence, and is free from the pronounced flavour of juniper which is to be found in the artificial preparations of this nature. Messrs. Hobson make two qualities, one with red and yellow label being quite free from alcohol, and the other with green label containing a small amount of alcohol produced by fermentation. Both are guaranteed free from added preservatives or arsenical contamination, special examination being made of each batch of the finished product before it is bottled. The firm also make a beef-and-malt wine which, being compounded with a full-flavoured wine of fine quality, is a good preparation for sale by those holding wine-licences.



DISORDERLY STUDENTS.—The Amiens School of Medicine and Pharmacy has been closed owing to the frequent disorders during the lectures. These culminated in the firing of ten revolver shots by one of the students.

THE ARMY PHARMACISTS of the Reserve recently held their annual banquet in the handsome restaurant of the P.L.M. Railway Station, Paris, which is familiar to all travellers to the Riviera. Senator Cazeneuve presided, and those present included Pharmacist-Inspector Masson, Principal-Pharmacist Karcher (Reserve), and several of the principal army surgeons. The annual meeting of the Reserve Pharmacists' Association was held earlier in the day, when an interesting lecture was delivered by Principal-Pharmacist Karcher on "Pharmaceutical Supplies for the Home Army."

WINTER SESSION.

Brief Records.

Leeds Chemists' Association.—This week's meeting, February 1, was "Ladies' Evening." The meeting was held at the Grand Restaurant, and Mr. F. Pilkington Sargeant gave a lecture on "Precious Stones."

Society of Chemical Industry.—At a meeting of the Nottingham Branch on January 25, Mr. J. M. Wilkie, B.Sc., read a paper on the action of iodine on phenol and its application to the volumetric determination of phenol mixtures. He detailed the results of a large number of experiments, which showed that carboxylic acid can be determined by a new method which enables the estimation to be made with less trouble and more quickly than formerly.

Bournemouth Pharmaceutical Association.—A meeting was held at the Gervis Hall Restaurant on January 30, Mr. F. W. Hornby (President) in the chair. A discussion on the proposed curriculum and division of the Minor took place. The majority were against the scheme as outlined by the Society, but in favour of some form of division, and also in favour of a compulsory curriculum not necessarily divided into two parts. A resolution was also sent to the Society advocating compulsory passing of the Preliminary examination before apprenticeship.

Middlesbrough Chemists' Association.—A meeting was held at the Grand Hotel on Thursday evening, January 26, Mr. Arthur Lee (President) in the chair, when the proposed scheme for the division of the Minor came up for discussion. The President briefly explained it and criticised some of the details, finally saying that if the Pharmaceutical Council adopt it, it should not come into force until 1920, so as to allow all those in the trade at present ample time to qualify. A discussion followed, in which Messrs. Brackenbury, Bennison, Drust, Ellington, and Nichols took part. The subject was referred to a sub-committee to report to the Society.

Blackpool and Fylde Pharmacists' Association.—A special meeting was called at the Palatine Hotel on January 30 to consider the draft scheme for the division of the Qualifying examination and the institution of a curriculum. Mr. Sankey moved a resolution approving of the scheme, but suggesting that technical schools be recognised for the Intermediate examination, and that the latter be held on two consecutive days. After an animated discussion the resolution was carried with another one as follows: "This Association trusts that the Pharmaceutical Council will allow latitude in regard to recognised schools for districts remote from schools of pharmacy."

Liverpool Chemists' Association.—The President's address, delivered at the annual meeting on Thursday, January 26, is reported on p. 60. Other business of the meeting included the election of Messrs. A. Reed and J. J. Wicks as members of the Association and the election of four members of Council. Messrs. T. F. Abraham and T. S. Wokes counted the votes, and found that the successful candidates were Messrs. E. Prebble, Humphreys Jones, C. Hare, and A. S. Buck. The annual report was read by the Secretary (Mr. H. Humphreys Jones) and the Treasurer's report by Mr. W. Wellings. There are 141 members on the Association's books. There was a balance in hand of 26*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*, the largest on record for many years. Profit on the price-list and on whisk-drives had contributed to this total.

Cheltenham Chemists' Association.—The annual general meeting was held at the Oriental Café, High Street, Cheltenham, on Thursday, January 26. Mr. Freshfield Reynolds (President) in the chair. The Treasurer's report showed a balance in hand of 19*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.*. The Secretary also submitted a good report. Mr. Reynolds having intimated that on account of indifferent health he should be unable to continue in office, Mr. J. A. Thomas was unanimously elected President. Messrs. F. T. Palmer and M. C. Mansbridge were elected Vice-Presidents; Mr. W. H. Hill was elected Treasurer and Secretary; Mr. T. T. Dolman was elected Assistant Secretary; and Messrs. W. Palmer, H. B. Clark, C. H. James, A. C. Saxby, W. Minchin, and A. J. Wells were elected members of the committee. Mr. D. A. Evans was elected as a new member of the Association. The title of the Association was altered to the Cheltenham, Gloucester and District Pharmacists' Association.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.—A lecture on "Serum Therapy" by Dr. A. Davies occupied the attention of nearly thirty members at the meeting held at 73 Newman Street, London, W., on January 26. The lecturer showed how in Metchnikoff's theory of phagocytosis the leucocytes were responsible for immunity from disease, while the "humoral" hypothesis, advanced chiefly by Pasteur and Ehrlich, gave this credit to the blood-serum. The opsonic school combined

both views, and Dr. Davies dealt with this autogenous method of vaccine treatment in detail, illustrating the determination of opsonic index and the standardisation of the vaccine. Bate's "aggressor" theory, in which the organism itself is considered, and also the various tuberculins, were dealt with briefly. The President, Dr. Walmsley, Messrs. Crossley-Holland, Barbour, and Wilkinson joined in the discussion which followed, and the proceedings terminated with thanks to Dr. Davies for his instructive discourse.

Isle of Thanet Chemists' Association.—At a meeting held at the Royal Hotel, Ramsgate, on January 26, the following resolution was proposed and carried unanimously:

"That having regard to the present condition of pharmacy and the safety already secured to the public, it is considered by this meeting unnecessary to enforce a more stringent Qualifying examination. We, in common with the general body of chemists, find the greatest difficulty in obtaining suitable youths as apprentices, and should the proposed enforced curriculum and double examination become law it must prove disastrous in this matter to the trade and to many men desiring to qualify. We foresee with alarm that such procedure would further increase the unqualified drug-store competition which in these days of democratic legislation Parliament would ultimately recognise as meeting public requirements to the injury of those already qualified, and undoubtedly deter those who previously had ideas of becoming so."

British Pharmaceutical Conference.—A meeting of the Executive was held at 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., on Thursday, January 26, Mr. E. M. Holmes presiding. Mr. J. C. Unnay, Hon. Treasurer, reported on the finances of 1910, showing that the Year-book had been paid for, and the total indebtedness was 25*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*, which advertisement receipts would wipe out. He predicted that in future subscriptions would pay for the Year-book and other Conference expenses. It was agreed to send the balance-sheet to all members. The sub-committee on the extension of Rule 1 recommended that practice of pharmacy discussions should take place on (1) pharmaceutical education and (2) secret remedies, also that secretaries of local associations should be asked to supply certain information. Mr. Peck (Hon. Secretary) reported that a meeting with the British Medical Association Committee is being arranged for this month. The following were elected members: Miss E. Hooper, B.Sc., F.I.C., Southsea; Messrs. J. D. E. Anklesaria, Hyderabad, India; S. Arnold, Southsea; W. R. Atterbury, Southsea; A. E. Breakspeare, London; C. H. Baker, Cosham; G. Donaldson, Portsea; T. H. Durrans, B.Sc., London; A. H. Holt, Southsea; J. W. Rhodes, Southsea; E. H. Smith, Gosport; P. G. Tremlett, Southsea; R. Trist, Southsea; and A. Greenwood Watkins, West Bromwich. The following were elected honorary members: R. T. Baker, Professor Em. Bourquelot, A. Hérissey, H. Kiliani, A. B. Lyons, Professor A. G. Perkin, F.R.S., H. G. Smith, and H. W. Wiley. Mr. J. O. Braithwaite, Editor of the "Year-book of Pharmacy," in a letter to "The Lancet," states in regard to the use of the word "adrenine" in a "Y.B.P." abstract of a "Lancet" note on adrenaline, that "in his original patent (1901, No. 1467) Jokichi Takamine expressly states that this is an invention to procure the active principle of suprarenal glands . . . named adrenalin or *adrenin* (the italics are Mr. Braithwaite's) in a pure condition." Mr. Braithwaite does not consider that any injustice is done to "adrenalin" by his use of the "British Pharmaceutical Codex" word "adrenine," because T. Maben has said that "adrenalin is not a registered trade-mark, nor a fancy name." (See also Correspondence in this issue.)

Grimsby Pharmacists' Association.—A meeting was held at Dring's Hotel on Tuesday, January 24, Mr. Cor. Willson (President) in the chair. A letter was received from the Pharmaceutical Society in regard to the Unqualified Medical Practice Report, and it was resolved "that this Association anxiously awaits any action the Society may take to protect their interests as a body of educated gentlemen worthy of recognition as such in any Court of law." An invitation was received from the Hull Association by all members asking them to meet Mr. Rymer Young, but as the time of the meeting was inconvenient it had to be refused. It was moved that the Pharmaceutical Society be asked to arrange a meeting of Grimsby and North Lincolnshire chemists at an early date, preferably some Thursday afternoon. The Secretary then read a communication from the Pharmaceutical Society about the proposed curriculum, and after Mr. H. W. Colley had explained the regulations it was decided to send seven questions to the Council and hear their reply before giving a decided answer.

National Union of Assistant Pharmacists.—A branch meeting was held at the London College of Chemistry on Sunday, January 29. Present: Mr. G. A. H. Shelley (chair), Messrs. Snow, Hobbs, Bottomley, Jordan, Thomas, Dowty, Martin, Smith, Nicholls, Ford, Cecil, and Bullen. A letter

was read from the General Secretary reporting a decreased membership and suggesting that the administration be vested in one of the branches to secure a more economical working. Upon the resolution of Mr. Bottomley, seconded by Mr. Hobbs, it was agreed that this branch was willing to have the administration, if desired, next year. There was no appointment made for the secretarial duties at this stage, but the branch Secretary affirmed his inability to accept the office. The question of running a candidate for the Pharmaceutical Council election in May was left open, it being considered difficult in view of the financial situation. A delegate would be sent to Liverpool to the general meeting if at all possible. Messrs. Bottomley, Hobbs, and Snow were elected to bring the committee to full strength.

Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association.—A meeting was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Friday, January 27, Mr. Thos. Stephenson (President) in the chair. A letter from the Edinburgh Cremation Society regarding a proposed crematorium was read and consideration reserved. Two questions were then considered in committee. The first had reference to a communication received by the Secretary (Mr. Rowland) on the subject of unqualified medical and surgical practice which he had received from the Executive of the North British Branch. At the close of the discussion it was agreed to leave the matter open for further consideration at next meeting, and that in the meantime members should consider the various points raised in connection with the report, with a view to formulating a reply to the Executive of the North British Branch. The Secretary reported that he had received from the Pharmaceutical Society a copy of the draft scheme for a division of the Minor examination and the institution of a curriculum of study. After a free discussion in committee it was moved by Mr. Macpherson, seconded by Mr. Forret, and unanimously agreed to remit the draft scheme to the committee, to prepare a report to be submitted at next meeting of the Association.

North Kent Pharmacists' Association.—A meeting was held at the Mitre Hotel, Chatham, on Wednesday, January 25, the President (Mr. R. Feaver Clarke, J.P.) in the chair. A discussion took place upon the Shops (No. 2) Bill. In introducing the subject the President remarked that the Bill as at present drafted contains restrictions and penalties which possibly many pharmacists had not realised the importance. Mr. Wells (Maidstone) and Mr. A. W. Ryder (Rochester) strongly supported the Bill with the object of obtaining compulsory shortening the hours of business. Mr. A. J. Chater, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, explained the clauses affecting pharmacists and answered numerous questions. The following resolution was then carried unanimously: "That this meeting, while cordially approving the principle of the Shops (No. 2) Bill, strongly urges the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society to press for amendments to define more clearly the conditions relating to the sale of medicines and medical appliances, and to safeguard the interests of pharmacists which appear to be prejudicially affected by some of the provisions of the Bill. The meeting further desires to assure the Council of the unanimous support of the North Kent Association." Consideration of the scheme for the division of the Minor examination was deferred to the next meeting in February at Gravesend. The President was instructed to send a letter of congratulation to Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones upon his election to Parliament. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Chater for his very interesting and instructive address.

FESTIVITIES.

Dinners.

The subjoined reports are unusually concise (owing to printing difficulties), and the brevity is not to be taken as commensurate with the importance of the events.

Scarborough Association of Pharmacists.

The annual dinner was held at the Brooklands Esplanade Gardens on Thursday, January 26, the members and friends present including the President (Mr. W. A. Senior), Messrs. Geo. Whitfield (Divisional Secretary), R. M. Hill, T. W. Longdin, E. R. Cross, E. M. Chapman, J. W. Chapman, W. R. Eyre, H. E. Hunt, H. C. Senior, W. H. Newton, H. Kelsey, L. Rose, M. Anderson, A. Cromack, R. Pearson, J. Crooks, A. H. Jones (Ayrton, Saunders & Co., Liverpool), H. M. Morgan (Alfred Bishop & Sons, London), and G. H. Meadley (Hon. Secretary). After an excellent dinner and honour to King George V., the toast of "The Pharmaceutical

Society of Great Britain" was ably proposed by Mr. E. R. Cross, and Mr. G. Whitfield replied. Mr. A. H. Jones gave the toast of "The President and the Scarborough Association of Pharmacists," which Mr. Senior acknowledged. The other toasts were as follows: "The Visitors," proposed by Mr. Eyre, reply by Mr. H. M. Morgan; "The Artistes," proposed by Mr. E. M. Chapman, reply by Mr. R. M. Hill; "The Dinner Committee," proposed by Mr. H. E. Hunt, reply by Mr. G. H. Meadley. Mr. G. Whitfield proposed "The Health and Prosperity of Mr. H. Kelsey," who is shortly leaving England to commence business in Canada. Mr. Whitfield spoke in glowing terms of the esteem in which his firm held Mr. Kelsey. During the evening musical and other entertaining items were contributed by Messrs. H. C. Senior, R. M. Hill, Longdin, Cromack, W. A. Senior, and A. H. Jones, and their efforts added greatly to the success of the gathering.

Blackpool and Fylde Pharmacists' Association.

The annual dinner was held at the Palatine Hotel on January 25, Mr. D. J. Bailey presiding, supported by Messrs. J. Rymer, Young, Sykes, F. Boothroyd (President of the Association), C. H. Turver, Laurie, Sankey, Johnson, Withers, Greenwood, Huddart, Richardson, O. L. Jackson, E. N. Jackson, Needham, Parker, Blackhurst, Rosenzweig, Mallalieu, Mayson, W. P. A. Taylor, W. F. Wilkinson, L.D.S., Steele (St. Anne's), and Hardman (St. Anne's). The wholesale trade was represented by Messrs. Wellings and Nall (Evans, Liverpool), Wood (Thompsons, Liverpool), Crossley (Oldfield, Pattinsons, Manchester), T. Novelli James (Bush, London), C. Smith (Yardleys, London), and Swinbourne (Knox, Walker, London). The toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society" was entrusted to Mr. J. W. Huddart, and Mr. Rymer Young, who replied, devoted his remarks mainly to the proposed curriculum, which he uncompromisingly supported, and urged upon the Association seriously to consider it. Mr. Greenwood gave the toast of "The Wholesale Trade," Mr. Crossley replying. Mr. Withers proposed "The Local Retail Trade Association," which Mr. Sykes acknowledged. Mr. N. A. Wood proposed "The Blackpool and Fylde Pharmacists' Association," and Mr. Boothroyd briefly replied. Mr. H. M. Johnson submitted "The Visitors," and Mr. W. Wellings responded. "The Artistes" was proposed by Mr. W. S. Parker and replied to by Mr. C. W. Fisher. The musical items were exquisite. A vote of thanks to the Chairman was proposed by Mr. J. Laurie, the proceedings being so successful that this need of praise was well deserved.

Whist and Dance.

The Birkenhead and Wirral Chemists' Association's whist-party was held at Kirkland's Café, Bold Street, Liverpool, on January 26. It made a delightful evening, and the prize-winners were Miss Lawrenson, Miss Hilda Ellithorne, Mr. Bryan, Mr. Dennis, Mr. Walker, and Mr. Brunskill.

The annual whist-drive of the Huddersfield and District Chemists' Association was held on January 25 at the Queen Hotel, seventy-two guests being present. The prize-winners were Mr. Aubrey Dean, Mrs. Knight, Miss Stephens, Mr. P. Cardno, Mr. Thompson, and Miss Thompson. There was some good music. Mr. and Mrs. Stephen received the guests.

A very enjoyable evening was spent on Thursday, January 26, when a whist-drive and dance in connection with the Sheffield Chemists' Athletic Club was held at the Imperial Rooms, Pinstone Street. The first half of the programme was a very pleasant whist-drive, about 120 members and friends being present. The prize-winners were: *Ladies*—Misses Ash and Henderson and Mrs. Fox. *Gentlemen*—Messrs. J. Gilbert Jackson, Aves, and Malabar. After the presentation of the prizes refreshments were served: then followed a dance, which was kept up until 2 A.M., about sixty taking part. The M.C.s were Messrs. J. T. Appleton and Percy Carr.

FRIGUSINE is stated to be the first specimen of a new group of medicaments having iodine as the active principle combined with iodo-ricinic acid. It forms a varnish-like covering to the skin, and resists cold and heat.

THE BUTLER SCANDALISES.—"Punch" of February 1 gives under this title "a specimen of the new Society journalism for American consumption," the following bit of it having an obvious suggestion of cash chemistry:

"My principal item of news comes from a scrupulously untainted source—no less a person than Sir Elihu Crusher's own valet having given it to me. Sir Elihu, it seems, recently opened a new branch at Chelmsford, and who do you think was the first customer? Lady Wirridge's French maid, for a shillingsworth of rat-poison. When I tell you that Lord Wirridge has since been very ill and that the French maid has disappeared, you will no doubt draw such conclusions as America requires."

TRADE REPORT AND MARKET REVIEW.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., February 2.

HERE is a fairly good tone in drugs and chemicals, especially the latter, which is due to the favourable outlook in the chief industrial centres. The bulk of price-alterations announced since our last are in favour of sellers, and include a substantial advance in quicksilver from second-hands, and if the advance becomes "official" later, mercurials may follow. English refined camphor is 1*d.* per lb. dearer all round, following on that of the crude and the inability of the Japanese monopoly to offer. Opium has advanced fully 6*d.* per lb. in Smyrna, owing to the renewal of frosts, and spot holders have raised their prices in sympathy. Both menthol and peppermint oil are very firm, with a strong undertone. Other products which have appreciated in value include ammonia sulphate, benzols, lycopodium, styrax, cantharides, wood-oil, turpentine, and carbolates. Articles which have depreciated in value comprise shellac, castor oil, star anise oil, and linaloe oil. The principal changes are as under :

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Ammonia sulphate	Benzols	Anise oil, star	Linaloe oil
Camphor (crude)	Cantharides (Russ.)	Arsenic	Shellac
Camphor (Eng. ref.)	Cassia oil	Castor oil (French and E.I.)	
Carbolates	Lycopodium	Rosin	
Opium			
Quicksilver (sec.-hands)			
Styrax			
Turpentine			
Wood-oil			

Russian Platinum.

At a sitting of the Russian Duma held on January 30, the Minister of Commerce introduced a Bill prohibiting the export of unrefined platinum.

Heavy Chemicals.

Business in the heavy chemical market continues to be of a satisfactory character, and there is a good general demand both on prompt and forward account. The late steady tone in prices is well maintained and seems likely to be. The sulphate of ammonia market continues very firm and prices continue to advance. This is probably due to the joint influence of a very fair demand through actual new business and to the fact that middle hands seem to require supplies to cover old contracts, and consequently prompt supplies are well taken up. Present nearest figures: Beckton, 25-per-cent. ammonia guaranteed, prompt, 13*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*; London terms, 13*l.*; Leith, 13*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 13*l.* 15*s.*; Hull, 13*l.* 10*s.* to 13*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*; and Liverpool, 13*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

Manchester Chemical-market.

January 31.

The chemical-market has been fairly good throughout the month, especially on export account, while there has been marked steadiness in home demand. It is noteworthy that in one or two of our prominent trades there has not been the inquiry people were led to believe would be the case, yet the demand for chemicals has been consistently good. This is no doubt due to the improvement in the cotton and textile industries in Lancashire, where the outlook, with a good supply of cheap cotton, is undoubtedly good. High-strength caustic soda has been in unchecked request, and there is now

a growing demand for lower strength. White 7*s.* to 7*t.* per cent. is quoted 10*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 10*l.* 15*s.*; 7*t.* to 7*t.* 2*s.* per cent., 9*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 9*l.* 15*s.*; 60 per cent., 8*l.* 16*s.* to 8*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* Ammonia alkali, 58 per cent., delivery over this year, 3*l.* 15*s.* to 4*l.* Bleaching-powder, prompt, 4*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*; and contract account, 4*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* to 4*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, both softwood casks on rails; soda crystals, 50*s.* to 52*s.* 6*d.* per ton in bags; bicarbonate of soda, 4*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, industrial, 3*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, and tinted, 3*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per ton, f.o.b. at works. Aniline oil (pure), 5*l.* 6*d.*; and salts, 5*l.* 6*d.* to 5*l.* 12*s.* Sulphate of copper, notwithstanding the rather depressed condition of the raw material, has become very much firmer, and although there is very little change to note in quotations, there is a better feeling forward. White powdered arsenic, 10*l.* 15*s.* per ton, delivered Manchester. Brown acetate of lime is quiet at 6*l.* 10*s.*, and grey steady at about 10*l.* foreign c.i.f. Acids and cream of tartar rather quieter. Glycerin is officially quoted at 10*l.* per ton for s.g. 1.260 naked in 5-ton lots, and in tins and cases at 10*l.* in not less than 5-cwt. lots. Business in coal-tar products is on the quiet side, though sulphate of ammonia rules firm at 13*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* to 13*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* per ton on rails Manchester.

Continental Drug and Chemical Markets.

CAMPHOR.—The general tone has improved. Crude Chinese is quoted at 160*s.* per cwt., and refined in bells can still be had at m.340 per kilo, while Japanese 2*l.*-lb. slabs are quoted at m.3.35 per kilo.

CANTHARIDES.—The demand has slightly improved recently, and sales, both for delivery and in spot, have taken place. For immediate delivery m.6 per kilo. has been paid, whereas spot goods are quoted at m.6.25 per kilo.

CITRIC ACID.—Prices in Hamburg have slightly improved, and m.2.80 per kilo. is quoted for spot by second-hands. Considerable sales have taken place on speculative terms, as the further development of the market is uncertain.

ERGOT.—Small lots which have been offered from Russia changed hands readily at m.8.25 per kilo. The present quotations for spot (Hamburg) goods is m.9, and the demand, within a restricted limit, continues good.

HYDRASTIS.—News was received from America some weeks ago attributing the rise in prices to scarcity. As it is impossible to check this assertion, and the price of hydrastis is already high, holders are exercising caution in transacting business; but prices have again risen, m.25 to m.26 per kilo. being paid in Berlin, while goods for delivery offer at only slightly below these prices.

HYDROQUINONE.—Since the date of the dissolution of the convention about the middle of last year, considerable competition has been felt, and prices have fallen to as low as m.5 per kilo. The opinion is entertained that the lowest price has not yet been touched.

KOLA.—According to reports from West Africa the crops have been very small, and quotations of m.75 per 100 kilos. asked by dealers are being paid without difficulty. As consumption has assumed considerable proportions a further rise in prices may be anticipated, all the more so as orders sent to Africa on the basis of above-mentioned prices have not been considered, and the stocks in Hamburg market are inconsiderable.

LYCOPODIUM.—Considerable sales have taken place owing to the unfavourable news from Russia. The supplies, both in Russia and in Hamburg, are described as unimportant, and prices of m.4.40 to m.4.35 per kilo. are being quoted for spot in cases and bags, respectively. Russia is quoting m.5 in excess of the above prices. The present rising tendency for lycopodium merits attention.

SANTONIN.—It is quite possible that the proposed advance at the beginning of January was abandoned owing to the fact that the report of an impending rise had not the desired effect of increasing the volume of business. Meanwhile it is pretty certain that the advance must eventually take place.

TARTARIC ACID.—Manufacturers are to-day quoting m.225 per 100 kilos., but are not able to transact much business, as they are unable to cover their requirements in raw material to a corresponding degree. Though, at the present rates, consumers are only buying what is strictly necessary, the demand is still sufficiently considerable to give rise to fears of a further advance in prices.

London Markets.

ANISE OIL, STAR.—Sellers of the premier brand quote 4s. 10½d. spot, and to arrive business has been done at 4s. 4d. c.i.f.

ARSENIC.—The tendency of best white powdered is in buyers' favour at 11l. per ton for large wholesale purchases.

BENZOIN.—The *Agamemnon* has brought 60 cases from Singapore.

BENZOLS are again firmer to the extent of 4d. per gal., 50 per cent. in casks offering at 9½d., and 90 per cent. at 9¾d. to 10d. per gal. in casks for prompt delivery in London.

BERGAMOT OIL.—The demand at primary centres has been more active, in consequence of which greater firmness has been shown, and sellers have again raised their asking prices. From 14s. 9d. per lb. c.i.f. is quoted for shipment.

BLEACHING-POWDER.—There is a scarcity of English for prompt delivery, 5l. 2s. 6d. per ton being quoted, and f.o.r. makers works from 4l. 2s. 6d. to 4l. 7s. 6d. is quoted.

BUCHU.—The *Kenilworth Castle* has brought 30 packages from Cape Town, of which 20 are for New York and 10 for London. Privately business has been quiet, but in view of the scarcity of the short-broad leaf, it would not be surprising if again higher prices were paid at next week's auction.

CALABAR BEANS remain very scarce; for shipment from Hamburg 11d. per lb. c.i.f. is quoted.

CAMPHOR (CRUDE).—For February-March shipment business has been done in Chinese crude at 146s. c.i.f., and on the spot small sales are reported at 162s. 6d. per cwt., but a much higher figure is now asked.

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—The English refiners announce an advance of 1d. per lb., and now quote as follows: Bells, 2s., 1-cwt. lots 1s. 11d.; flowers, 1s. 11d., and 1-cwt. lots 1s. 10d., and tablets at the usual proportionate prices. The firmer tendency in Japanese refined noted last week is well maintained, the sales including 2½-lb. slabs at 1s. 7d. spot, with sellers of 1-oz. tablets at 1s. 8d. Higher rates are cabled from Japan. The exports from Japan (according to official figures supplied by the Japanese Government) for the ten months ending October have been as follows:

1908	1909	1910
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Kin ... 1,629,554	... 3,015,132	... 2,643,447
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CANTHARIDES have been in brisk demand on the Continent, and as supplies have been reduced prices have advanced to 2s. 11d. per lb. c.i.f. for at least 2-cwt. lots.

CARBOLATES are dearer, zinc being quoted 6½d., and sodium 6¾d. per lb.

CARBOLIC ACID is dull of sale for crystals, which offer at 3½d. per lb. for 39° to 40° C., and at 3¼d. for 34° to 35° C., with the usual premium for B.P. detached crystals. Crude, 60 per cent., is steady, some makers asking higher prices. East Coast is quoted 1s. 1d., and West Coast 1s. to 1s. 0½d. per gal.

CARDAMOMS.—About seventy cases have arrived from Ceylon.

CARNAUBA WAX.—The price of waxy grey has advanced to 175s., and chalky to 170s. on the spot. The recent arrival of 400 bags is quite insufficient to supply the demand, as stocks are extremely small.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—The *Conway* has brought 590 packages to London.

CASTOR OIL.—French is easier to the extent of 30s. per ton, and finest medicinal quality is now obtainable in cases at 42s. 6d. per cwt. and 2s. less in barrels. Hull make of first pressing is quoted at 32s. per ton in barrels for March, and 30s. for April, delivered free on wharf London. Owing to arrivals from Calcutta, the Liverpool spot market is easier at 4½d. per lb. for quay lots, but for store lots the quotation is 5d.

CLOVES are firm, fair Zanzibar offering on the spot at 7½d. per lb.

COD-LIVER OIL.—Advices from Norway, dated January 26, state that the weather has been very stormy, and practically no catch has been made. It is therefore practically impossible to say anything with certainty regard-

ing the condition of the liver. In these circumstances the market remains firm, and for 1910 oil leading brands are quoted at 110s. per barrel c.i.f., and for finest new Lofoten oil for March-April shipment at 115s. c.i.f. Our Bergen correspondent writes on January 30 that the greater part of last week was lost for the cod-fishing by stormy weather at the fishing places, and the catch is still too insignificant to be reported. From Lofoten there is, however, a statement of the size of the cod's liver, which is said to be about the same as last year—viz. 300 to 350 livers per hectolitre. The market is firm, and exporters who have to buy in the market are compelled to pay the price of 113s. per barrel c.i.f. Bergen for finest 1910 non-congealing Lofoten oil.

COPPER SULPHATE has eased by 5s. per ton for ordinary Liverpool brands, which offer for January-February delivery at 19s. 5s., and at from 19s. 7s. 6d. to 19s. 10s. for March-April delivery.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—Small sales of good reboiled Singapore lump have been made at 11l. 10s. per cwt.

ERGOT remains very scarce and firm. There is an offer of new sound Russian for February shipment from Hamburg at 3s. 10½d. per lb. c.i.f. net.

FENUGREEK-SEED.—From Hamburg 1910 weathered Morocco sells at 10s. per cwt. c.i.f. for at least ton lots.

GAMBIER.—Cubes on the spot are scarce, with small sales of middling quality at 39s. per cwt.

GLYCERIN.—It will have been noticed from our Trade Report of January 21 (p. 61) and January 23 (p. 167) that the market for crude glycerin in the North has been easier, owing to the fact that supplies which had been held back for a further advance are coming on the market. It is pointed out, however, by several of the largest refiners that the position of double-distilled is not likely to be affected by these cheaper offers, and in one quarter it is asserted that no lower price for this description is anticipated this year. The official quotation for double-distilled s.g. 1.260 quality on 5-ton contracts is 105l. per ton in drums and 109l. in cases.

GUINEA GRAINS.—Small spot sales are reported at 102s. 6d. per cwt. New crop is not expected before June-July, and the market in consequence rules firm.

IEPECACUANHA.—The *Agamemnon* has brought 40 bags East Indian, this confirming the intimation given last week.

IRON SULPHATE.—With large stocks and a heavy production prices remain low at from 40s. to 42s. 6d. per ton.

LEMON OIL.—More activity is reported at primary sources, owing to the filling of requirements for January shipment to cover previous blank sales, and all that was offered for sale found ready buyers at full prices. Pressings having been scarce the available supply is still a very limited one and this made it easy for sellers to occasionally obtain slightly better prices. It is to be hoped that if less rainy weather prevails, supply of lemons for pressing purposes will come in more plentifully, and this will make business in new oil easier than it has been of late. For shipment from 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. per lb. c.i.f. is quoted.

LINALOE OIL.—The German markets are well supplied, and for guaranteed pure quality distilled from wood some holders would be prepared to consider a bid of 8s. 3d. per lb.; for mixed oil, partly distilled from the seed, offers of from 7s. 6d. to 7s. 9d. as to quality and quantity would probably lead to business.

LIQUORICE-ROOT.—For shipment from Hamburg 30s. per cwt. c.i.f. is quoted for natural decorticated of new crop, and 45s. for double-peeled.

LYCOPODIUM.—Offers of Russian from the producing districts are difficult to procure, and as stocks on the Continent are limited, prices have advanced to 2s. 3d. per lb. net for treble-sifted quality in cases.

MENTHOL remains firm. The period covered by our last report was up to Tuesday, January 24, since when business has been done in Suzuki and Kobayashi for February-March shipment at 12s. 4d. to 12s. 6d. c.i.f., also January-February shipment of Kobayashi at 12s. 6d. c.i.f., these sales being from second-hands. From Japan the price, in

combination with oil, is cabled at 20s. per lb. c.i.f. On the spot 12s. 9d. to 13s. has been paid.

The exports from Japan during November amounted to 12,170 kin, valued at 77,230 yen. During the eleven months ending November 30 the exports have been as follows:

	1908	1909	1910
Kin	49,427	88,787	107,365
Yen	235,161	422,963	584,667

MERCURIALS.—If an official advance should occur in quicksilver, one in mercurial salts may follow.

OPIUM.—The renewal of frosts in Turkey, which have been confirmed from independent sources, has led to an advance of fully 6d. to 8d. per lb. in the prices asked from Smyrna by cable this week, and for 11½ per cent. 13s. 6d. per lb. c.i.f. has been quoted, but "without engagement"—this in response to an offer to buy at 13s. 3d. for 11½ per cent. Spot holders of Turkey druggists are indifferent sellers, with a little offering at from 14s. to 14s. 6d. per lb., and in soft-shipping grades 17s. 6d. has been paid for Tokat, and 18s. 3d. for Hadjikeny in a retail way. Spot Persian has moved up in sympathy with Turkey, and holders now ask 16s. per lb. for good. The extent of the damage to the poppy-plant by frost will not transpire for at least a month, but it is anticipated that on this occasion it will be found to be serious, and buyers will do well to cover their requirements ahead.

Writing on January 20, a Smyrna correspondent states that the sales amount to 13 cases, of which three were on account of Interior speculators, one for England, and 9 for the U.S.A. and the Continent. Owing to severe cold weather and hard frost in the upper districts, the young plants have more or less suffered, and this has strengthened the position on this side, the consequence being that buyers had to advance prices in order to secure supplies.—Another correspondent, writing on January 21, states that the tendency to an advance has not made much progress during the past week, as it was considered certain that in view of the confirmation of reports of damage to the poppies holders would have been disinclined to make concessions, and buyers have consequently been reserved. Native speculators made an effort to engineer an advance, paying piastres 124 for "extra Karahissar," though the effort proved useless, and this same quality has been done at piastres 122, the price formerly quoted. Thirteen cases only changed hands. The market closed firmly with speculative buyers present, while holders were absent, piastres 122 being the closing price. The arrivals amount to 4,277 cases, against 1,845 cases at the same date last year.

ORANGE OIL.—An advice from Palermo dated January 21 reports a fair demand at firm prices, attempts which have been made to induce sellers to shade their figures have proved unsuccessful, and the tendency remains favourable owing to the smallness of this season's production. For shipment 6s. c.i.f. is quoted for sweet and 6s. 3d. c.i.f. for bitter.

PEPPERMINT OIL is firm, with spot sales of Japanese at from 6s. 6d. to 6s. 7d. for Kobayashi, 6s. 5d. for Suzuki, and 6s. 4d. for Yazawa. To arrive a good business is reported in Kobayashi and Suzuki for January–February shipment at 6s. 4½d. c.i.f., and February–March at 6s. 7½d. c.i.f. for Kobayashi from second-hands. In H.G.H. business has been done at 13s. 3d. to 13s. 6d. London terms, at which figure there are buyers, and for good brands of Wayne County 11s. to 11s. 3d. is quoted. American advices are to the effect that the oil is held, with considerable firmness, and there is a continued absence of offers from the West, with the outlook generally considered favourable to further improvement in values. On Wednesday, we understand, a good business was done in H.G.H. at 13s. 6d.; cables from the U.S.A. quote 15s. as being the price there.

The exports from Japan during November amounted to 14,056 kin, valued at 46,838 yen. During the eleven months ending November 30 the exports have been as follows:

	1908	1909	1910
Kin	95,667	139,827	134,326
Yen	278,076	429,067	423,522

QUICKSILVER.—A very firm market at 8/- per bottle, at which a good business is reported from second-hands. This was the position at the close on Tuesday, but it is thought the Baron may advance his price at any moment, when all mercurials will follow.

QUININE.—At the auction of quinine held at Amsterdam on January 27, 1,417½ kilos. (50,000 oz.) Ed. II. were

offered and sold at an average price of 10.01fl. per kilo. against 10.20fl. per kilo. paid at the previous auction. The next sale will take place on February 10, and will consist of 1,417½ kilos. The exports of "quinine, quinine salts, and combinations" from Germany during the eleven months ending November were as follows:

	1908	1909	1910
Kilos.	122,500	152,000	172,500

RHUBARB.—Small sales *ex* auction were made privately last week at 2s. 2d. per lb. for good round medium-size Shensi with three-quarters good pinky fracture.

STYRAX.—Higher prices are quoted from producing centres, and rates have advanced to 52s. per cwt. c.i.f. in original barrels of about 4 cwt.

TURPENTINE shows the slight advance of 3d. per cwt., closing at 57s. 9d. for American on spot.

WOOD-OIL.—Hankow is dearer, business having been done at from 32s. 6d. to 33s. per cwt. c.i.f. for February–March shipment.

Malayan Camphor-planting.

Five years ago Sir William Taylor, the Resident-General of the Federated Malay States, reported that at the Batu Tiga Experimental Gardens good results were obtained from the camphor-plants, the seed of which was obtained from Japan in 1904. Now it is reported that the plants are thriving excellently, and should ere long be able to supply a sufficient number of cuttings for more extensive planting. Mr. Lewton Brain, the new Director of Agriculture, sees no reason why camphor-cultivation should not prove an excellent supplemental crop to rubber, and he is willing to supply planters with cuttings for experimental purposes. It is to be distinctly understood that the Director of Agriculture advocates the planting of camphor-plants as a separate crop, and not as a *catech*-crop to rubber. Mr. Brain is of opinion that the conditions in Malaya are most favourable for the cultivation of camphor.

Olive-oil Production.

H.M. Consul at Seville reports on December 19, 1910, that he is informed by persons in close touch with the olive-oil market that the output in that district this season will be the smallest on record. The olives at that date were being pressed, and only small quantities of the new oil had reached Seville, none, however, being of good quality.—The British Vice-Consul at Bari reports that, as regards quality of olive oil in Italy, the result was very different in the various districts. Along the sea-border, where the olive-fly had caused some havoc, the oils proved naturally more or less deficient in quality. Good oils by no means inferior to last season's were obtained, however, in the higher levels, where gathering was favoured by cold winds. The crop in Apulia is estimated on an average at about one-half of a normal season. In Calabria and Sicily the crop is reported a failure. Umbria seems to have a good crop, Tuscany a short one, and little is hoped for on the Riviera.—H.M. Consul-General at Canea (Crete) reports on December 29, 1910, that the quality of the olive-crop in that district is good, while that at Candia and Rethymo is poor, the oil having an acidity of from 8 to 14 per cent. The quantity is very small, and it is not likely that any of this season's crop will be exported.

Ammonia Sulphate.

It will have been noticed from our Trade Report that the market for ammonia sulphate has shown a strong and rising tendency for some time past, and early this week the quotation for prompt delivery at Glasgow or Leith advanced to 13s. 10s. per ton, or fully 2½ per ton above the price ruling at the same date of 1910. So far as regards the Scottish mineral-oil companies, which produce some 70,000 tons annually, this represents a substantial increase in the profits, and when it is stated that the cost of production is under 5/- per ton it will be readily recognised that at its present quotation this important by-product is yielding very good results indeed. It is anticipated that the increase in the price of sulphate of ammonia, representing as it does a difference in profits of about 150,000/- per annum, will compensate for the further fall that has taken place in paraffin-wax, burning-oil, and other oil products. The advance in price is due to the strong demand, which, despite the keen competition of nitrate, is steadily increasing. The exports from Great Britain last year amounted to 283,772 tons, as compared with 264,142 tons in the preceding year and 234,282 tons in 1908. The Board of Trade returns show that the increase has been to those markets grouped under the generic heading "other countries," but there is good reason to believe that the United States has taken over double the quantity imported in the previous year. The Continental markets, however, show a slight falling-off.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Council-meeting.

THE monthly meeting of the Council took place at 16 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., on February 1. The President referred in appropriate terms to the death of Mr. G. E. Bridge, of Bournemouth, after which the interesting announcement was made that a portrait of William Ince, who was President in 1851, has come into the possession of the Society by desire of the late Canon Ince, of Oxford. The Secretary announced the names of the seven Councillors who are due to retire in May, these including the President. The Registrar's report was next presented, from which it appears that the membership is practically the same as at the corresponding period of last year, while an increase of thirty-six is shown on the Register of Chemists and Druggists. A note is appended to the report that there have been registered 467 superintendents of companies in accordance with the provisions of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908. The balance on the Benevolent Fund was shown to be more satisfactory than it has been for some time, and the Treasurer announced the receipt of 50*l.* from Mr. Kay, Stockport, and 100*l.* from the executors of Thomas Howell, Cardiff. In considering the report of the Library Committee some attention was directed by Mr. Gifford to the large amount spent on repairs and alterations to the Society's premises. Mr. Edmund White tendered his resignation as a member of the Committee of Reference in Pharmacy of the Pharmacopoeia Committee as a protest against the part taken by the General Medical Council in the publication of the Report on the Practice of Medicine by Unqualified Persons, without consultation with the Pharmaceutical Society, and for other reasons. Mr. Young suggested that the Committee of Reference should report to the Pharmaceutical Council. The Parliamentary Secretary is conducting negotiations in regard to the restriction of the use of "pharmacy" as a place-name. The discussion on the draft scheme for the division of the Minor and the institution of a curriculum was postponed until the April meeting.

THE Councillors present were Mr. J. F. Harrington (President), Mr. W. L. Currie (Vice-President), Mr. W. H. Gibson (Treasurer), and Messrs. C. B. Allen, A. S. Campkin, W. G. Cross, J. H. Cuff, F. J. Gibson, R. L. Gifford, D. Gilmour, A. Hagon, J. Harrison, A. E. Hobbs, E. T. Neathercoat, C. J. Park, F. A. Rogers, C. Symes, R. C. Walshaw, E. White, and J. R. Young.

DEATHS.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read, the PRESIDENT said he had received a letter from Mr. Ivor T. Barnes, Knightsbridge, thanking the Council for their expression of condolence on the death of his father.

The President then referred to the death of Mr. G. E. Bridge, Bournemouth, which took place on January 7 (*C. & D.*, January 14, p. 45). Mr. Bridge did good work on the governing body of the School Board, and was Mayor of Bournemouth from 1908 to 1910. He (the President) was unfortunately prevented from attending the funeral, but was represented by Mr. F. E. Bilson. Mr. Bridge's death, said the President, is regretted by all his friends, and by none more so than his pharmaceutical acquaintances.

PRESIDENT INCE'S PORTRAIT.

The President then announced that the Society had been presented with a portrait in oils of William Ince, a former President, and he called upon the Secretary to explain the circumstances.

Mr. BREMRIDGE said that William Ince was President of the Society just sixty years ago, and was connected with the firm of Godfrey & Cooke, Southampton Street. The late Joseph Ince, who was so well known to many members of the Society, was a son of William Ince, and another son was Dr. W. Ince, Canon and Sub-Dean of Oxford and Regius Professor of Divinity at the University. Dr. Ince has died recently, and although he did not leave the portrait of his father to the Society, he expressed to his executor a wish that it should be offered to the Society if they cared to accept it, as Dr. Ince was desirous of finding a home for the portrait at Bloomsbury Square. Dr. Ince was very proud of his father's connection with the Society, and those who attended the meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference at Oxford will remember what a keen interest he (Dr. Ince) took in the proceedings. Mrs. Joseph Ince's brother, Sir Frank Marciel, is the executor, and in communicating the wishes of Dr. Ince he suggested that an inscription might be added indicating the source of the gift. Mr. Bremeridge added that the portrait and frame have been restored, and an inscription-tablet added in accordance with the executor's wishes.

The President said the Council much appreciated the gift, which will remind them of a former President. It will be the duty of the School Committee to select a position for the portrait on the wall of the Council Chamber.

ELECTIONS AND RESTORATIONS.

The names were then given of seventy-eight persons who were elected members of the Society, and also of forty-eight student-associates. Thirteen persons were restored to their former position in the Society, and one name was restored to the Register of Chemists and Druggists.

MR. HOBBS suggested that means should be taken to impress on masters the need for registering their apprentices in the early stage of apprenticeship. He had recently had his attention drawn to a case in which some hardship might have been caused through neglecting to register. It might happen that an examination which is at present accepted for the Preliminary may not be so in future years, hence the necessity of early registration as apprentices or students.

THE PRESIDENT: We all agree with Mr. Hobbs, and hope the attention he has drawn to the matter will do good.

RETRING COUNSELLORS.

The SECRETARY notified that pursuant to statute the following members of Council retire in May : J. H. Cuff, J. F. Harrington, J. Harrison, A. E. Hobbs, C. J. Park, F. A. Rogers, J. R. Young.

THE REGISTRAR'S REPORT.

THE REGISTRAR then submitted his report for the year 1910, of which the following abstract embodies the main features :

During 1910 one person passed the Modified examination and 407 the Minor, while 37 were restored to the Register of Chemists and Druggists, making the total additions 445, but from the Register there were removed 260 by death, 9 erased at the request of the persons and 140 by the Registrar under the powers of Section 10 of the 1868 Act, altogether 409. So that 36 names were the net addition to the Register of Chemists and Druggists, which, on December 31, 1910, contained the names of 2,028 pharmaceutical chemists and 14,264 chemists and druggists. The Register of Company Superintendents (Section 3, 1908 Act) contains 467 names. The Society has 619 life-compounders [599] on its roll, 6,673 annual members [6,676], and 471 student-associates [475]. The 1909 figures are in brackets. Particulars were also given of 1,836 cases of alleged infringement of the Act which were investigated. Proceedings were instituted in 273 cases—viz. :

Drug-store Proprietors ...	78	Chemists' Executors	3
Drug-store Managers and Assistants	3	Chemist's Executors'	
Chemists,	16	Manager	1
Chemists' Managers and Assistants	15	Chemists' Widows	3
		Limited Companies	6

Limited Companies' Directors, Managers, and Assistants	9	Horticultural Sundries-man	1
Medical Practitioners' Assistants	3	Seedsmen	64
Chemical Apparatus Dealer	1	Seedsmen's Assistants	39
Medicine-chest Fitter	1	Ironmongers	7
Grocers, Oilmen, and Dry-salters	18	Ironmongers' Assistants	2
		Manufacturer of Gout Specific	1
		Sheep-dip Agent	1
		Plumber	1

The penalties were paid or recovered in all but 18 cases, some of which are still pending. In 19 cases poison was asked for, but none found in the articles sold. The Society's inspectors have looked into 2,798 shops to see if the certificate was exhibited according to law.

Mr. CUFF drew attention to what he considered an omission in that the number of student-associates elected in 1910 is not stated.

The REGISTRAR explained that the difficulty in giving these arises from the fact that some pass the Minor during the year and pay the higher membership fee.

Mr. GIFFORD added that surely some student-associates were elected during the year.

The REGISTRAR said that it has never been the custom to give details.

Mr. CUFF suggested that it would be well to add a note explaining this as is done in the case of life-members.

Mr. HAGON again drew attention to the number of seceders from the Society, and suggested that steps should be taken to prevent loss of membership by notifying the Divisional Secretaries of those members in their district who cease to subscribe to the Society.

The PRESIDENT said this is done each year.

Mr. GILMOUR, referring to the report of the administration of the Pharmacy Acts, said the time has arrived when attention should be called to the work done by the Law Committee and to the fairness with which the Acts are administered. It would be seen from the records that the cases investigated cover fairly evenly the whole ground in which pharmacists are interested. It also occurred to him that if this large number of cases has to be investigated at present that the number of infringements would be much greater in the absence of the vigilance of the Society. For this the country at large should be grateful.

Mr. CROSS said it is a matter of congratulation that the number of secessions is so small. The Society is as strong as it has ever been, and it can now be truly said to represent the trade.

The PRESIDENT added that the membership is at the high-water mark. On January 1, 1910, the Society had 7,275 members, and this year the figure was 7,292.

The report was received and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

FINANCE.

The Treasurer (Mr. W. H. Gibson) then presented the report of the Finance Committee, of which the following is an abstract :

General Fund Receipts.				
Penalties and costs .....	..	..	£139	8 9
Subscriptions .....	..	..	797	9 6
"Journal" and publications .....	..	..	236	1 10
Restoration-fees .....	..	..	7	7 0
Registration-fees .....	..	..	109	4 0
School fees .....	..	..	11	11 0
Ground rent .....	..	..	13	0 0
<hr/>				
			£1,314	2 1

After payment of the amounts authorised at the last Council-meeting, a balance of £458. 17s. 10d. remained, from which the following amounts were recommended for payment :

"Journal" and publications .....	..	..	£834	1 3
Stationery, etc. .....	..	..	15	1 10
Current expenses .....	..	..	300	0 0
Salaries, etc. .....	..	..	313	0 0
School and examinations .....	..	..	311	10 6
Law charges .....	..	..	163	12 4
House .....	..	..	159	4 2
Library .....	..	..	1	8 4
<hr/>				
			£2,097	18 5

The following balances were shown on the Benevolent Fund :

Current account .....	..	..	£613	4 2
(Recommended for payment, £3 17s. 2d.)				
Donation account .....	..	..	63	15 1
Orphan Fund .....	..	..	147	11 0

The TREASURER, commenting on the report, said that the balance on the General Fund is less than it was a year ago, but there is £400. less to pay away. There is the handsome balance on the Benevolent Fund of £620., over the amount at the corresponding period of last year. This satisfactory state of affairs has been brought about by the large amount of ground rent received. The donation account has also received £50. from Mr. Thomas Kay, Stockport, and a legacy of £100. from the executors of the will of the late Thomas Howell, Cardiff. This has enabled the committee to pay £100. off the loan at the bank, the balance of which is rapidly diminishing.

The report was adopted.

BENEVOLENCE.

The report of the Benevolent Fund Committee was taken *in camera*, after which

Mr. CAMPKIN (Chairman of the Committee), in moving the adoption of the report, said that despite the fact that in February of last year they were 117. 15s. to the bad, they are now 613. to the good. Various causes have operated to produce this satisfactory condition of matters. Last month they voted away £138. 10s., and in the corresponding month of last year they only granted £91. 10s. The Fund has been very well assisted during the past year, and the appeals which had been made have been well responded to.

Mr. GILMOUR, in seconding the adoption of the report, spoke of the amount of labour spent by members of the committee in considering each individual case which came before them. Of the ten cases submitted to them, the previous day, five of them had sums granted varying from £2. 10s. up to £6. Members of the Council, he added, could have confidence in the Benevolent Fund Committee and in the fairness with which its members dealt with each and every case.

The report was adopted.

On the motion of Mr. CAMPKIN, seconded by Mr. GILMOUR, it was agreed to instruct the Treasurer to pay £30. out of the Orphan Fund to the London Orphan Asylum for the maintenance and education of the orphan which is being supported from the Fund.

L. M., S., AND H. COMMITTEE.

The report of the Library, Museum, School, and House Committee was submitted. It dealt with the usual matters regarding the Library and School. Among the various matters relating to the school was a recommendation that six new balances at £1. 10s. each be purchased. Messrs. Parkinson & Son's account, amounting to £42. 14s., for work done during the past month was approved.

The report was adopted.

THE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE IN PHARMACY.

Mr. White remarked that he had the permission of the President to make a statement, which he regarded as due to the Council, in respect to a step he proposed at once to take. It was that he desired immediately to resign his position on the Committee of Reference in Pharmacy, the members of which were nominated by the Council in 1904. Proceeding to give his reasons for this step, Mr. White said that at the very start he, personally, was profoundly dissatisfied with the condition of affairs dealt with by the committee, and had never hesitated to express his dissatisfaction to Mr. Walter Hills, the chairman of the committee, with whom he had had many disputes. For reasons of loyalty to the Council and the Society he had remained on the committee for nearly seven years, and he might have continued to serve had it not been for circumstances which had recently occurred. The immediate cause of the step he was taking, then, was the publication of the Blue Book on Unqualified Practice at the instigation of the General Medical Council. He was correct in saying that the Pharmaceutical Council had no intimation from that body of any intention to proceed with the publication, which, he thought, was not

the treatment the Society ought to receive. The General Medical Council and the Pharmaceutical Society stand, relatively, in the same position in regard to medicine and pharmacy in this country, and he did not think the Society had ever given any reason for the General Medical Council to suppose that it is not perfectly willing to do all it can to stop any unsatisfactory condition of things in which its own members are involved. He did not propose to criticise the contents of the Blue Book, because it would be out of place for him to do so; but he might refer to the fact that the Society has no official knowledge of the book, they were not consulted regarding it, and its contents are unfair. Although the General Medical Council did not come to them for consultation and advice on this matter, they did so in 1904, when they asked the Council, at the instigation of Mr. Walter Hills, to appoint a Committee of Reference on the Pharmacopoeia. It was not a Pharmacopoeia Committee in the proper sense of the term, and the question involved had been under discussion ever since the Society had an existence; in fact, fifty years ago the same point was being debated. Proceeding, Mr. White said that in the preparation of the 1885 Pharmacopoeia the services of the Society's three professors were retained by the General Medical Council on a commercial basis, without the permission of the Council of the Society being sought. In connection with the 1898 issue, a committee appointed by the Council did a considerable amount of work. But when a bill for £375*l.* was presented for the out-of-pocket expenses of those gentlemen, nothing being charged for services, the G.M.C. expressed surprise that the work should cost so much money, and added that they had not the funds out of which to pay that bill. They accordingly offered 100*l.*, which unfortunately the Pharmaceutical Council accepted. The Society's representatives consequently retired from the position in which they had been placed, and in a very dignified way signified that they would have nothing more to do with the Pharmacopoeia on such terms. In 1904, however, Mr. Walter Hills had an idea for bridging over the gulf, and secured the appointment of the Committee of Reference in Pharmacy. At that time he regarded it as a pity that the Committee should go, cap in hand, to the G.M.C. and ask that body to allow them to do the work, when the G.M.C. ought to have approached them on the matter. The committee, since 1904, had been sitting once a fortnight for two or three hours a day, doing an immense amount of work in revising the B.P. At this date they had got to the letter S, and were approaching the end. They have revised the Pharmacopoeia without any guarantee that they would get recognition. Mr. White repeated that he is profoundly dissatisfied with the condition of things. He could not regard the publication of the Blue Book as anything but a slur and a slight upon the Society as a body. In connection with the revision of the B.P. a grant of 100*l.* had been paid to Professor Greenish for his services, so that the technical points in connection with it had been covered for about 600*l.* He did not suggest that the Committee of Reference should be paid, as all its members, like himself, are willing to perform the work for the honour of doing it. But he thought every member round that table believed that they should get proper recognition. (Hear, hear.) Proceeding, Mr. White thought the cost of producing the B.P. is not more than 2*s.* per copy. On the assumption that 40,000 copies of the present issue would be sold before the publication of the new one, he estimated that it had yielded a profit of 16,000*l.* It appeared to him that the plea that the G.M.C. have no funds for the Pharmacopoeia is not a good one. If they referred to the German Pharmacopoeia, which is a State publication, and not published for a profit, they would find it to be a larger book, better bound, and better got up. And yet it is delivered and sold in this country for 5*s.* 9*d.* Replying to the plea put forward by the G.M.C. that they have not the power to elect pharmacists on the Pharmacopoeia Committee, Mr. White stated that he had referred to the Medical Acts of 1858 and 1862 and found there is no foundation for such a statement. These Acts enjoined and put upon the G.M.C. the duty of producing a Pharmacopoeia under its supervision and authority, but nothing is said about a Pharmacopoeia Committee, or

whether the volume is to be produced by professional medical men or outsiders. The excuse put forward by the G.M.C. at different times that it has no power to give recognition to the Committee of Reference, is therefore not at all genuine. Concluding, Mr. White said: "The position I take up is that this Committee of Reference have practically given away the situation and thrown us back twenty years, or perhaps more, because the G.M.C. have got their revision, and you will have no fresh Pharmacopoeia for twelve or fifteen years. It has been settled in a way that we did not wish it to be."

At a later stage of the proceedings Mr. RYMER YOUNG remarked that in the course of his speech Mr. White had made allusion to the fact that the Committee of Reference has never yet sent in a report, although it has existed for six or seven years. He proposed that the committee be now invited to send in a report to the Pharmaceutical Council.

This proposal was carried.

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS COMMITTEE.

The report of the Local Associations Committee stated that the reception accorded its representatives at Margate was extremely cordial and gratifying. The Vice-President was authorised to accept an invitation to the annual dinner of the Newcastle Association, and the Secretary was directed to arrange, if possible, for a meeting to be held on the afternoon of the same day to which pharmacists in the district might be invited.

REPORT OF THE EXAMINERS.

This report showed that at the recent examinations in England 165 candidates were examined and 77 passed, and that in Scotland the figures were 71 and 34 respectively.

Mr. George W. Gray, Westminster, and Mr. David C. Michie, Hawick, were appointed Divisional Secretaries.

Mr. F. E. Fritsch, Professor Herbert Jackson, and Mr. E. S. Peck were invited to conduct the examination for the Pereira Medal to be held in April.

"PHARMACY" AS A PLACE-NAME.

The SECRETARY submitted the report of the Parliamentary and General Purposes Committee. This stated that the Parliamentary Secretary attended, and at the request of the President explained the position in regard to dispensing in surgeries by unqualified persons. He also reported on the progress of the negotiations in respect to the proposed restriction of the word "Pharmacy" to premises which are carried on in conformity with the provisions of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908. The committee approved of the steps to be taken by the Parliamentary Secretary. The attention of the committee was directed to the use of certain pills for abortifacient purposes, and on the suggestion of the President the matter was referred to the Law Committee. Reference was made to an alleged act by a pharmacist which was contrary to the interests of the Society. The committee decided to take no further action in the matter in the meantime.

THE CURRICULUM AND DIVISION OF THE MINOR.

The next item on the agenda was consideration of the draft scheme for the division of the Minor examination and the establishment of a Curriculum.

The PRESIDENT remarked that there was general agreement that the Council is hardly prepared to discuss these questions. Some 130 copies of the draft scheme have been sent to the different Associations and pharmacy teachers, but up to that time there had only been twenty replies. It has therefore been thought better to afford more time for replies being sent in. He moved that the officers be instructed to classify the returns so that the Council would be in a position to discuss them. At the committee-meeting held the previous evening it was thought advisable to defer further consideration till the April Council-meeting.

Mr. HOBBS thought it would be helpful to the Associations if the Vice-President, who is responsible for drafting the scheme, gave some explanation of its terms. Personally he was sorry it was not to be discussed that day, as he was anxious for certain reasons to express his views.

Dr. SYMES remarked that the Associations desired the Council to give them a lead. They wanted to know more of the scheme in detail, and how it is to work.

Mr. HARRISON expressed the opinion that the Council has proceeded on wrong lines. The proper course would have been to have had a full discussion, and then to remit the scheme to the Associations for consideration. The Council, however, had adopted the system of referendum. He thought it would ill become the Associations immediately to express their opinions upon matters on which the Council has refused to give them any lead whatever. The only way by which they can make the best of the step they have taken is to explain to the various meetings which would be held throughout the country the reasons for the proposed departure, and to show that there is a necessity for the Curriculum and a desire that the examinations should be divided. In that way they would overcome what he could not help thinking was a dereliction of duty on the part of the Council. He hoped the reports on the scheme would be tabulated so that they could discuss the scheme with full knowledge of what the country thinks about it.

The VICE-PRESIDENT acknowledged that he was responsible for the procedure adopted, and contended that it is the proper one. For twenty years back, he said, they have been discussing a Curriculum and the possibility and advisability of the division of the Minor examination. A scheme has now been put forward for adoption or rejection by the country at all events for its opinion. He could not see that they require to give the country any lead. The lead is before it. The Council would take the opinions expressed and discuss them with the full knowledge whether the pharmacists as a body desire a Curriculum and a division of the Minor, or whether they do not.

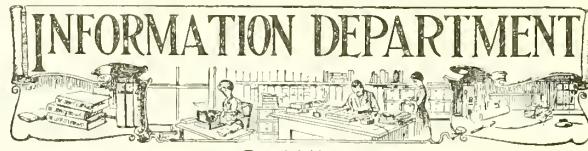
The President's suggestion was then agreed to, and it was resolved that the Associations be requested to send in their reports on the scheme not later than March 15 for consideration by the Council at the April meeting.

Intimation of correspondence concluded the public business.

FRENCH NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

PHARMACY AT THE THEATRE.—"Le Père la Frousse," the three-act vaudeville produced at the Cluny Theatre last week, is one of those broad but rattling farces in a pharmaceutical setting of which "Ferdinand le Noceur" and "Major Ipeca" are well known examples. M. Duhamel, like the immortal Homais, is a Norman pharmacist, and the first act shows him behind his counter at Flavigny-sur-Eure, with his chief assistant (well played by M. Marius) and an irresistible comic laboratory porter (M. Koval). M. Duhamel is deputy-major and captain of the local fire-brigade, but he aspires to higher honours. "Obtain for me the violet ribbon of Officer of Academy," says he to Lucien, the suitor for his daughter's hand, "and Irma is yours." Lucien's uncle being Minister of Fine Arts, and himself enchanted with the pharmacist's heiress, obtains the coveted decoration, and M. Duhamel's fellow-citizens decide to celebrate the event by presenting him with the "palms" of the order set in brilliants. This is one excuse for a journey to Paris, to thank the uncle and to receive the honourable distinction. How, at the Parisian hotel, one misunderstanding leads to another, and the horrified pharmacist returns to Flavigny under the impression that he has killed the old gentleman who was wanting in respect to Mme. and Mlle. Duhamel, is too long to be recounted in detail. Suffice it to say that in the third act—which opens in the laboratory behind the pharmacy—all ends happily. The curtain drops on a festival scene, where, on National Fête Day, among tricolor banners and popular rejoicings, the gallant fire-brigade is passed in review, and the pharmacist-deputy-major finds that his bullet, after all, did not find its billet. The author, M. Fontanes, is modestly compared to Molière or Shakespeare by several critics. But whether the popularity of M. Fontanes' play will survive the test of a couple of centuries remains to be seen.



Postal Address:

C. & D. INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.
Telegraphic Address: "CHEMICUS LONDON."
Telephone No.: BANK 852 (two lines).

The object of this Department is to supply names and addresses of Manufacturers of, or Agents for, goods pertaining to the Chemical, Drug and Allied Trades. The "Buyers' Guide" in each issue of "The Chemist and Druggist" affords much information, but inquiries for anything not referred to therein may be addressed to this Department. Replies will be furnished immediately, or inserted in this section free of charge.

INFORMATION WANTED.

We would be obliged if any reader would inform us by post-card or telephone who are the makers or agents of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries received since our last issue:

- 185/61. "Feritol."
- 185/53. "Gnom" sterilisers.
- 183/25. "Pikrisol": makers.
- 181/30. Pratt's pills: suppliers.
- 185/530. "Anchor" tooth-brush.
- 183/251. "Pelleray": what is it?
- 185/61. "Maltova" food: makers.
- 187/26. "Pynix," for neuritis: suppliers.
- 181/29. "Vegetable gutta-percha": actual makers.
- 187/26. "Pynix" for neuritis (solution and apparatus): suppliers.
- 181/59. Hospital nasal and throat cloudiser, "Lion and Cross" trade-mark.
- 186/27. Makers of glazed linen or "tracing cloth" (black) used in the manufacture of court plaster.
- 178/70. Makers of material—white flannel with brown gutta-percha backing—for application in neuritis.
- 186/24. "Peppermint Loriot" (made in Prussia) and "Peppermint Saville" (made in Austria): makers' addresses.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries regarding the following articles. The information will be repeated to any other inquirers who send to the Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- Agar-Agar: first-hand supply (178/24).
- Aluminium boxes: makers (184/48).
- "Arborite": makers (179/36).
- B. & P. starch: makers (French inquiry) (181/22).
- Billposters' paste: makers (185/49).
- Bitumen: suppliers (181/13).
- Booklet producers (Belgian inquiry) (179/57).
- Cell-pitch for batteries: first-hand dealers (181/13).
- Celluloid boxes: makers (184/48).
- Chok Marafet (Morton's): supply (185/45).
- Clark's "Hoplemuroma": maker (186/14).
- Cole's Ossidine: proprietors (186/142).
- "Crown" brand insecticide: manufacturers (184/10).
- Earthworm destroyer (in powder form): makers (180/12).
- Enamelled slipper bed pans: makers and suppliers (185/15).
- "Ferigol": maker (185/61).
- "Ferratol": maker (185/61).
- Fireproofing chemicals: supply (181/44).
- Formalates: makers (186/15).
- "Four Oaks" spraying syringes: makers (182/67).
- Gardner's syrup of hydriodic acid: maker and agents (186/141).
- Gun Chiche, first-hand supply (French inquiry) (180/36).
- Hearing trumpets: suppliers (181/33).
- Iodolysin: makers (177/9).
- Jackson's insect powder bellows: makers (178/9).
- "Leaf" brand hat polish: makers (179/23).
- "Leyurine": makers and agents (185/1).
- Liquid wire-worm destroyer: makers (180/45).
- Machine for making stiff pastes: makers (184/48).
- Morrison (drugs and chemicals): address (Indian inquiry) (185/32).
- Muller's physical training apparatus: suppliers (179/50).
- "Nacos": supply (180/24).
- "Neurovril": proprietors (181/34).
- Oxygenite: makers (181/49).
- "Pantopon": makers (186/16).

OBSERVATIONS & REFLECTIONS.

By Xrayser II.

This Year's Winter Issue

of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST contains, I should say, the largest and most varied amount of interesting matter that has ever appeared in a single week's issue of any trade journal, and my only complaint is that amid such an embarrassment of riches it is difficult to settle upon any particular article. The festive appearance of the cover naturally disposes one to glance first at the lighter items, and personal predilection draws me to those of an antiquarian and historical character; but the more practical ones are on subjects of such immediate interest, and are moreover so artfully "spatchcocked" among the rest, that my butterfly quest of amusement is arrested almost against my will, now by an interior view of "Boots," now by a note on "Draughts" or "The Causes of Flatulence," and anon by a summary of the proposed curriculum. Of the more literary articles I have read none with more keen appreciation than Mr. Rushton's "Harking Back." My own recollections go a good deal farther back than his. I have perhaps known fewer men of "light and leading" in the trade than he, but I have very pleasant memories of two of those of whom he speaks (one of whom, happily, is still alive), and could add to his gallery an equal number as noteworthy in themselves though less famous. May I add my own testimony to Mr. Rushton's that the drug-trade, much as it is the fashion to decry it, still offers a career worth pursuing to anyone who heartily does his best in it, and still produces, as it has produced in the past, men of whose character and achievements we have reason to be proud? I am sometimes inclined to grieve over what seems to me its increasing commercialism, but that is common to every profession and pursuit of our day, by no means peculiar to pharmacy. And after all, trade is trade, and we cannot help it if the conditions of modern trade make the struggle more exigent and more sordid. "The gain of honest pains is never base," and honesty, though an old-fashioned is not yet quite an obsolete virtue.

"Winchester Quart"

and "Corbyn" are terms the origins of which are now being discussed in "Notes and Queries," but as yet little light has been thrown upon the subject. The original querist describes the Winchester quart as a long, round-shouldered, short-necked bottle holding "about eighty-two ounces, more than half a gallon," and the Corbyn as a squat bottle of the same diameter holding half the quantity. He gives a quotation from Johnson's "Dictionary" which seems to indicate that in the great lexicographer's time there was in England a Winchester fluid measure of approximately French standard, in which the pint was about an old wine-quart, and the quart presumably about two wine-quarts, and suggests that although the Winchester quart and Corbyn do not now correspond to this wine-standard they may have done so originally and been increased in course of time to the standard of the old ale-gallon, which was equal to about 163 fluid ounces, the imperial gallon being 160 ounces. He appears to be in some doubt as to whether

"Corbyn"

comes from *chopin*, a French liquid measure containing half an old French *pinte*, or has been transferred from the name of the well-known firm which bears it. With regard to this last point there can, I suppose, be no real doubt. But, whatever may have been the case originally, "Winchester quart" has never within my experience signified a bottle of any invariable capacity; "small Winchester" and "largo

Winchester" are quite common expressions, and the bottles may vary from each other by a pint or more. I have not been able to find either "Winchester quart" or "Corbyn" in any dictionary or other work of reference; the "Encyclopaedic Dictionary" has, "A Winchester pint, i.e., a quart," with a reference to "a seal'd Winchester of three-penny guzzle" in T. Brown's works (this confirms the quotation from Johnson given above), and the "Century" defines "Winchester pint" as "A measure a little more than a wine-pint and less than a beer-pint," but neither work gives any explanation of the origin of this term or mentions either of the two about which inquiry is being made. We can infer that at one time a Winchester quart was twice the size of an ordinary quart, and that the bottle we are familiar with under that name is a witness to the fact, but that is all. The strange thing is that Winchester measure was from Saxon times down to 1824 the standard for all England. In Milner's "History of Winchester" there is an illustration of the Winchester standard quart (pot) of Queen Elizabeth's day, but its capacity is not stated. The ale-gallon of that time was of 282 cubic inches, which is less than 5 inches in excess of our present standard.

Curriculum Schemes

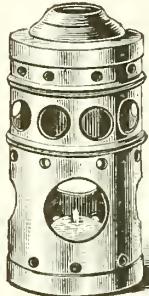
will soon be as plentiful as blackberries. First, we have the official scheme which requires for its proper working at least two full sessions. This scheme has been thoroughly riddled by yourself and your correspondents, and if any life is left in it, it must be feeling very limp indeed. Next comes Mr. Maben with another scheme which also involves compulsion; but it has the appearance of being less onerous by spreading the work of the first session required by the official scheme over four or five years instead of cramming it into one, while the actual time spent at the pharmacy school would be reduced to six months. I shall look forward with interest to the discussion, should any arise on this scheme, but meantime I may point out some weak points that seem to me to knock the bottom out of much of Mr. Maben's reasoning. The first point deals with matriculation as it is called, in other words our old friend

The "Preliminary."

My experience is that the majority of apprentices come into the business without having first passed the necessary examinations in general knowledge. The study required for these examinations, when once the lad makes up his mind to tackle it, usually takes far more than a year, much more often two, sometimes three, and occasionally even four. While this cloud overshadows them these lads have no time for pure science, however much inclined for it they may be, and for them Mr. Maben's scheme breaks down. What does he propose to do for them? Secondly, many towns with less than 15,000 inhabitants contain pharmacists, who I hope still get apprentices, but no science classes—a fact that was pointed out at a meeting recently reported in the C. & D. How does the scheme apply to them? Thirdly, the time is so mapped out that every minute must be taken up with study, which is of doubtful value from various aspects, but chiefly when we consider the natural British temperament. This brings me to the last point I will mention at present: that human nature will tend to prevent the employer giving his assistant sufficient leisure for study, and the same human nature will urge the assistant, if he gets that leisure, to employ it in recreation rather than by perpetually "keeping his nose at the grindstone." We must not forget that the British nation was ever a nation of men of action rather than of students, and the national characteristics that made the Empire what it is still rule our hearts and lives. Is it not the case that the great majority of young men would rather have, and in point of fact do have, a good time between 16 and 20, and then stick in and work hard for a year or two and get it over? This side of the question must be reckoned with as well as the educational side, and in framing our schemes we cannot afford to overlook it.

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AND SYRUPS.
LIQUORS

Editorial Articles.

Profits on Proprietaries.

It is a singular coincidence that indications of revolt among retail chemists against the Proprietary Articles Trade Association should appear simultaneously with the honouring of the originator of the Association by men representative of all sections of the drug-trade and pharmacy. But singularity of coincidence is not in this instance the same as singularity of circumstance, for outbursts of criticism of established institutions are perennial, and do not necessarily imply ingratitude, while, if fairly expressed and explicit, they are frequently of the greatest service to the body criticised, since they can be made the occasion for explanations that restore confidence. The criticisms of the P.A.T.A. which we have received recently from retailers and have published are :

(1) Objections to the P.A.T.A. Council's declaration that it is against the principles of the Association for any single buyer of P.A.T.A. goods (whether wholesaler or retailer) to purchase a parcel of the goods on the largest discount terms and resell to other wholesalers or retailers at the same terms. Which means that co-operative buying is not allowed.

(2) Objections to the Council's resolution against retailers getting in return for advertising, such as window-displays and space in price-lists, manufacturers' protected goods, and selling these goods otherwise than by retail at retail prices.

(3) Objections to the constitution of the P.A.T.A. Council—viz., ten manufacturers, ten wholesalers, and ten retailers; it being argued that as the retail members are counted by thousands, and the others by tens, the representation should be proportionately more in accordance with the membership.

Official replies have been furnished to each of these objections, but the main argument advanced is embodied in the following paragraph:

"Brushing aside all the *pros* and *cons* as to whether it is right or wrong for traders, whether retail or wholesale, to sell to each other at less than P.A.T.A. fixed prices, the one solid consideration remains to be answered, Is it worth the retailer's while to carry his point about co-operative buying and distribution, if by so doing he does away with the fixed selling price to the public? We say emphatically it is not. Assuming that the retail section of the Association were strong enough to carry the point, what would the consequences be? First, the wholesale financial support of the Association would be withdrawn. That would in itself be a fairly serious matter, but a far more serious result would be that the loyalty of the wholesale trade would inevitably, and as a natural consequence, break down if their interests were deliberately ignored, for we do not suppose that even the most selfish retailer considers the wholesalers should back up the P.A.T.A. and help to stop cutting the retailer's profits purely for the love of the thing and without some *quid pro quo*. A third consequence would be that having lost the help of the wholesale section of the trade cutting would gradually be resumed, and to a very much greater extent than at present the difficulties of keeping stocks out of the hands of cutters would be multiplied. We feel sure we do not exaggerate when we say that in less than two years we should be back in a state of chaos, in fact to retail prices which prevailed before 1896. Where then would be the advantage of flouting the wholesalers for the sake of securing a little extra profit which properly belongs to the wholesaler? There would be precious little use then in combined buying, only to be able to sell at cut-throat prices."

All this means that the complainants have short memories or know not the time, now sixteen years ago, when proprietary articles handled by chemists were sold without profit and frequently at a loss, and that time will come again if the P.A.T.A. is wrecked. It is a fair and reasonable reply on the whole, and there is no other. The Association and its principles are a compromise and a compact : a compromise between face-values and cut-rates, ensuring some profit where otherwise there would be none. The compromise was ensured by manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers entering into a compact which is essentially the constitution of the P.A.T.A., and sixteen years' experience has proved that the compact is generally good and sound. Under it a long list of protected articles has grown up yielding the trade thousands of pounds profit yearly, where there was little, if anything, before ; better still, the P.A.T.A. leaven has leavened the whole, for the principle has been established in trade that *proprietors of proprietary articles must do something to ensure profit to the sellers of the articles.* This has been done, too, in the face of steadily increasing competition. In 1895, when the P.A.T.A. was founded, there were in Great Britain 31,600 sets of premises licensed for the vending of dutiable medicines : in 1909-10 the number had increased to 42,413. The values of the medicines increased from (approximately) 1,880,000*l.* to 2,505,000*l.* The figures are on a parity almost, licencees increasing by 34 per cent. and values by 33 per cent., so that the elements of competition and consequent reduction in profits have continued and still exist. It must also be kept in mind that protection is given to other classes of proprietary articles than stamped medicines ; foods, soaps, and toilet articles are among other goods handled by chemists upon which fixed minima of profits are assured to wholesalers and retailers. It is difficult to estimate what all this amounts to annually ; but 10 per cent. only on the stamped medicines means at present a quarter of a million a year, and it is 10 per cent. to the wholesaler and 20 per cent. to the retailer that the P.A.T.A. aims at. This is a trade asset which should not be trifled with. The constitution of the P.A.T.A. Council as well as the regulations has something to do with the improved conditions. Manufacturers', wholesalers', and retailers' representatives meet together on a footing of equality, determining what they consider to be best for all. Each of the three sections is always in a minority, but, in virtue of their kindred interests as distributors, wholesalers and retailers are always in a majority, so that it is sheer nonsense to say that manufacturers or proprietors dominate the compact. Moreover, during the whole sixteen years there has never been an instance of retailers being taken advantage of owing to the constitution of the Council. We do not say that this constitution is, like the laws of the Medes and Persians, unalterable, but we have not before us any practicable suggestion for its alteration ; and we feel that if such a suggestion is made it will not be taken into consideration.

Repetition of Prescriptions.

THE new Alberta Pharmacy Act, referred to in the *C. & D.* last week, is, as far as we are aware, the only British law which prevents the repetition by pharmacists of medical prescriptions containing cocaine or certain other toxic drugs. Such laws are not uncommon on the Continent. Thus, the repetition of prescriptions is uniformly regulated throughout the whole of the German Empire by the provisions of the Federal Council's decrees of 1896 and 1898. In the first place, it is forbidden to repeat a prescription if the physician has written on it "Ne repetatur," or has otherwise limited the number

of repetitions beyond the specified number of times. The repetition of prescriptions for internal use containing chloral hydrate, chloral formamide, morphine, heroin, cocaine or their salts, preparations of ethylene, amylene hydrate, paraldehyde, sulphonal, trional, urethan, or veronal, is forbidden unless the prescription bears the date and the renewed signature of a qualified medical practitioner—which is equal to writing out a new prescription each time. The term "internal use" extends to all prescriptions for eye-ointments, inhalations, subcutaneous injections, enemas or suppositories, as well as ordinary mixtures, powders, etc., intended for administration *per os.* As regards the repetition of prescriptions calling for morphine or heroin, an exception to the prohibition is made if the morphine or the heroin (or a salt of either) is not prescribed in a simple solution or trituration, but as an addition to other ingredients, when it is permissible to repeat such prescriptions without obtaining the renewed signature and date, provided the total amount of morphine contained in the medicine does not exceed 0.03 gram ($\frac{1}{2}$ grain); in the case of heroin, 0.015 gram ($\frac{1}{4}$ grain). Thus, it is forbidden to repeat the following prescription without the renewed signature of the medical man :

Morph. hydrochlor....	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{2}$
Aq. ....	...	...	3vj.—M

The following prescription may be repeated without formality :

Morphin. hydrochlor.	...	...	gr. ss.
Aq. laurocer.	...	...	3ij.
Infus. ipecac. (1: 100)	...	...	3ij.—M.

This concession does not apply to preparations intended for hypodermic use. As regards the repetition of prescriptions containing other potent drugs, not mentioned above, a list of 164 potent drugs and preparations has been compiled, and to each article the maximum repetition dose is given. A prescription calling for any of the articles enumerated in this list may be repeated without formality provided that the single dose is apparent from the directions for use, and that this single dose does not exceed the amount stated against the article in the list ; otherwise the renewed signature, with date, of a medical man must be obtained. The following are a few of the maximum repetition doses given :

Acetanilid.	...	...	...	...	7 <i>$\frac{1}{2}$</i> grains
Antipyrin	...	...	...	...	15 grains
Atropine	...	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ grain
Chloroform	...	...	...	...	7 <i>$\frac{1}{2}$</i> grains
Ext. hydrast. liq.	...	...	...	...	24 grains
Hyd ^v dyargy ^r . subchlor.	...	...	...	...	15 grains
Opium	...	...	...	...	2 grains
Phenacetin	...	...	...	...	15 grains
Sodi salicyl.	...	...	...	...	30 grains
Tinct. digitalis	...	...	...	...	24 grains
Tinct. opii	...	...	...	...	24 grains
Tinct. strophanthi	...	...	...	...	7 <i>$\frac{1}{2}$</i> grains

A prescription for "Tinct. opii 3ij.; to be taken as directed," may not be repeated unless signed and dated each time by a medical man, because the single dose is not apparent. On the other hand, were the directions to read "xxv. ter i.d." it may be repeated *ad lib.* without any formality by any pharmacist. In this case the single dose does not exceed the maximum repetition dose allowed in the above list. In Austria it is forbidden to dispense any prescriptions which are copies of original prescriptions. In Hungary, in the case of potent drugs distinguished in the Pharmacopœia by having two crosses against the title, a new prescription calling for one of these as an ingredient must be written out for each supply, and such prescriptions must be

made up within forty-eight hours in places provided with a pharmacy, otherwise within four days, after which time the pharmacist is forbidden to make up the prescription. In Russia the pharmacist has to keep the original prescription, but it must be copied on the back of the "tie-on" label still in use in that country. In Italy, in the case of "poisons" (Art. 61, Law of 1907), the pharmacist must keep the original prescription: in default, a fine of 4*l.* may be inflicted.

Income-tax.

THERE is no better hated tax in the United Kingdom than that which has to be paid annually by persons who earn over 160*l.* a year. Yet the income-tax is one of the oldest methods of raising revenue. Henry VIII. obtained from his Parliament such a tax when he contemplated a war with France, and occasionally up to the end of the eighteenth century—when there were wars or war scares—an income-tax was resorted to by the Governments of the day. In 1793-99 it was re-established by Pitt, when the initial stages of the Napoleonic wars were entered upon. It was repealed in 1816, and was not revived until 1842, when Sir Robert Peel imposed 7*d.* in the pound, which was levied in five years of the decade ending 1851. After a lapse of two years it was re-imposed in 1853, and has not since been repealed, although it reached the low-water mark of 2*d.* in the pound in 1874, Mr. Gladstone having reduced it to that. During the Boer War it rose to 1*s. 4d.* in the pound in 1895, while the National Debt was being piled up by nearly 150,000,000*l.* Until Mr. Asquith became Chancellor of the Exchequer the income-tax was regarded as a war tax—justifiable only for war—but it may be said that this is an obsolete idea, and that the income-tax will remain with us as long as revenue is required by the United Kingdom. These remarks are induced by the perusal of an interesting book, by Mr. F. B. Leeming, on how to make the income-tax return and prepare records in support of it and other particulars in respect to the tax. It will be remembered that one of the innovations made by the present Government is the requirement that employers shall inform the Revenue authorities of the names and addresses of employés who earn over 160*l.* a year. This new regulation has resulted in such an improvement in the revenue that the Commissioners intend in future to apply their powers in the most drastic fashion all round. They have now got a strong grip of employés, and they are to endeavour to obtain from every trader an accurate account of his earnings, and in every instance to require substantiation of the returns by statements of accounts. Mr. Leeming states that the authorities intend strictly to enforce the penalty of 20*l.* and three times the duty on income ascertained to be liable in all cases where there is gross inaccuracy in the return to the knowledge of the person making it; and in cases where no return is made at all they will in future exact the 5*l.* fine whether the person is found afterwards to be liable over the 160*l.* limit or not. We call attention to these warnings as affecting the interests of every reader of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST at home, and those who are in business on their own account must henceforth be careful in keeping books of accounts. No longer will the local assessors accept from traders a bare statement that their profits for three years have been so-and-so. They must not only keep accounts of their business transactions, but must prepare a set for income-tax purposes, and Mr. Leeming gives the following comparison of such accounts :

TRADING ACCOUNT.				
To Stock on Hand, January 1	...	...	...	£500 0 0
" Purchases	...	...	£1,420 0 0	
" Less Discounts	...	...	8 15 1	1,411 4 11
" Rent Half-year	...	...	50 0 0	
" Rates, Gas and Water Half-year	...	...	11 3 5	
" Taxes on Year	...	...	12 19 4	
" Carriage	...	...	19 0 0	
" Advertising	...	...	24 0 0	
" Wages and Petty Cash	...	...	94 3 8	
" Bad Debts Half-year	...	...	111 6 10	
" Interest on Loan Half-year	...	...	12 10 0	
" Profit on Trading	...	...	403 11 10	
				£2,650 0 0
By Sales	...	...	£1,990 0 0	
" Stock on June 30	...	...	660 0 0	
				£2,650 0 0

ACCOUNT FOR TAXATION PURPOSES.				
To Stock, January 1	...	...	...	£500 0 0
" Purchases	...	...	...	1,411 4 11
" Expenses—				
Rent	...	...	£50 0 0	
Rates, Gas and Water	...	...	11 3 5	
			£61 3 5	
Less one-third not allowed	...	...	20 7 10	40 15 7
" Taxes not allowed	...	...	£12 19 4	
" Carriage	...	...	19 0 0	
" Advertising	...	...	24 0 0	
" Wages and Petty Cash	...	...	94 3 8	
" Bad Debts	...	...	111 6 10	
" Interest not allowed	...	...	£12 10 0	
" Profit on Trading	...	...	449 9 0	
				£2,650 0 0
By Sales	...	...	£1,990 0 0	
" Stock on June 30	...	...	660 0 0	
				£2,650 0 0

There are, of course, many points of detail upon which difficulties arise in making returns, and these are explained in the book, but the author over and over again reiterates the statement that the Revenue authorities are considerate and kind to all honest traders whose statements in regard to their business are supported by accounts, and he adds : "A tradesman without a regular system of entering, in however rough a form, his daily takings, his expenses, and his purchases, cannot furnish an account to satisfy the surveyors, who regard all estimated accounts as unreliable."

Human Fat as a Remedy.

In many respects the extensive use of organo-therapeutic preparations in modern medicine savours strongly of the *materia medica* in vogue in the Middle Ages, while skin-grafting marks a decided step towards the reparation of the afflicted human frame by the incorporation of alien tissues. Human fat, particularly that obtained from criminals who had met with a violent death, was a valuable remedy in olden times, and still to-day there are parts in the Black Forest where it is asked for by the peasantry, who use it as a household remedy in various afflictions. The Baden pharmacist (shame upon him!) does not turn to a jar marked appropriately, but the inscription on the container from which he extracts the panacea is labelled "Adeps canis" or "Adeps suillus." To get the real article he will have to apply to Professor Dr. E. Holländer, of Berlin, who keeps this somewhat gruesome human product bottled, and to whom is due the honour of having introduced the use of the same into cosmetic surgery. In the case of a chorus-girl ("Münchner Medizinische Wochenschrift") who suffered from intense emaciation of the face, compelling her at last to abandon her profession, he injected under the skin human fat, with so satisfactory a result that the girl was soon able to resume her former occupation, her face having lost its death's-head appear-

ance. Professor Holländer obtains his fat from healthy patients, who have to undergo some operation in the course of which it is possible to separate the fat. This is cut into pieces, melted on the water-bath, and kept in bottles; before injection it is again warmed. The Professor states that he has used this method with successful results in other conditions; but he remarks that the fat is very rapidly absorbed from the site of injection, and to obviate this he adds to the human fat a small proportion of sheep's fat. This method, he states, gives the patient a normal appearance, very unlike the effect obtained by the injection of soft paraffin. Which enterprising firm will now be the first to submit quotations for "best quality purified and selected human fat"?

The Drug of Potentates.

As a result of the annexation of Korea by Japan the ginseng monopoly, from which for many generations the Korean Imperial family derived a large income, now falls into the hands of the Japanese Government. Owing, however, to want of diserimination in the management of the monopoly by the Korean Imperial household, and owing to negligence in preventing destructive diseases, the revenue from this source has been gradually decreasing, as shown in the following table:

1905	1906	1907	1908	1909
Yen	Yen	Yen	Yen	Yen
1,792,000	1,650,000	1,170,000	561,000	125,000

Korean ginseng always obtains the highest price, one kin realising 45 taels in the Shanghai market, while the American product sold at 30 taels and the Chinese native product at only 3 taels in 1908. The history of the Korean ginseng monopoly, which has been referred to on several occasions in this journal, has a peculiar relation to the Chinese Court. Highly esteemed by the Imperial Court in Peking, Korean ginseng was annually sent to China, as one of the principal articles of tribute, by a Korean envoy. This practice continued down to the reign of the late Emperor, and the monopoly was conducted by the Sa-yok-won, or Board of Foreign Affairs. What remained of this important Korean tribute was sold publicly in the market of Peking. When the Korean Government declared its independence during the China-Japan war, and denounced its tributary relations with China, the custom of sending ginseng to the Chinese Court ceased. The ginseng monopoly was then entrusted to a chartered company in Kaisong, the centre of the staple's growth, under the control of the Finance Department, but poor management by the company in handling the industry involved continual failure. Hence, in 1899, the industry and sale of the product were entrusted to the Mitsui firm of Japan by contract. Although certain improvements were made, the monopoly, as controlled by the Imperial household, again became productive of abuses and evils. The authorities concerned, caring only for profits, tried to reduce the price of the product, paying the ginseng farmers the lowest possible rates. This abuse resulted not only in smuggling and stealing, but also in quick extermination of the young plants, while negligence in averting disease from the latter further hastened the decline. This was a serious matter, for in preparing the widely known "Hong-Sam" medicine it is necessary to use roots which are at least five years old. The monopoly was finally brought under the control of the Japanese-managed Finance Department of the Government of Korea in January 1908, and under Japanese administration the monopoly is once more likely to become of great value. It has been estimated that by 1915 it will produce a net revenue of 250,000*l.* per annum.

Counter-prescribing.

Being Episodes from the pharmacy of a Scottish chemist and druggist, who has read the Government report on un-qualified medical and surgical practice in Great Britain and Ireland and recalls his own experiences.

Dramatis Personæ and Cast.
THE PERPLEXED PRESCRIBING PHARMACIST: Himself.
THE BRUTAL BRITISH PUBLIC: Proteus.

EPISODE VIII.

Enter elegantly dressed Fair Client of evidently neurotic type.

F. C. : "Good afternoon, Mr. P. Nice weather, isn't it? Oh! d'ye know I have just been shopping in town, and my head is positively splitting. I've had tea ever so often, but it's no use. I feel ready to drop. Do give me a strong powder, please; one of those cure-me-quick sort, you know."

P. P. P. (*mindful of the obiter dictum of the M. O. H.*) : "My dear madam, headache-powders, even when so scientifically combined as my own, should not be used indiscriminately. The highest medical guardians of the public health, officially approved by the Privy Council, have ordained that headaches shall be endured, not cured—at least, by headache-powders. They indict vendors of such powders of having sent thousands of victims to the lunatic asylums, the Suffragette dungeons, and some of the most direful cases to the House of Commons itself."

F. C. : "He-he-he! Oh, what a funny man you are, Mr. P.! Why, I've taken scores of your headache-powders, and they've done me ever so much good. Indeed, if it hadn't been for them, I might long ago have been in some of the naughty places you mention. Besides, my own doctor told me I was just to buy a bottle of Thingamay's thingumbobs, and have two whenever my poor head bothered me. Only they're so dear, and your powders are just as good. I never heard of these old fogeys—the what-d'ye-call-'ems? I expect they belong to some branch of these nasty old 'antis' that are all trying to make us give up everything except what they want to keep or sell themselves. I'll take my headache-powders, please, and I'm going to have one as often as I wish. So there!"

EPISODE IX.

Enter Pretty Girl, who holds up her forefinger for inspection.

P. G. : "Please can you tell me what's wrong with that?"

P. P. P. (*sotto voce, gallantly*) : "Nothing wrong with its form, I swear." (*ALOUD, solicitously*) : "Going to suppurate, I'm afraid. You must have scratched it somehow."

P. G. : "Oh, dear me, how provoking! And I was going to trim my dress for a ball this week. Whatever shall I do? Can't you give me something to stop it at once?"

P. P. P. (*quelling the natural man with a struggle and assuming a Grand Privy Councillor de haute en bas manner*) : "Impossible. These digital abscesses, although usually simple in their origin and nature, sometimes end in septicæmia."

P. G. (*dismayed*) : "Oh, how dreadful! Whatever is that?"

P. P. P. (*reassuringly*) : "It doesn't often happen, really, and hardly ever in the case of a young lady of such capital physique as yourself. (Mem.: Rather neatly turned that, old man.) I'm sorry we can't arrest the abscess, but frequent poulticing with linseed-meal will ease the pain and hasten the suppuration to the breaking-point. But watch carefully for any signs of soreness or hard swelling in the arm, and if you notice either see a surgeon."

P. G. (*gushingly*) : "Oh, thank you so much! But it's horrid, isn't it? for I so much wanted to go to the dance."

[Assets, 2d. for linseed-meal. Moral and intellectual compensation—contemplation of the charms of a very pretty girl and enjoyment of her ingenuous prattle.

Complimentary Dinner to Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P.

A FUNCTION, which if not unique is sufficiently rare to be called an event, took place in the Empire Hall of the Trocadero Restaurant, London, W., on January 26. It was the occasion of a complimentary dinner to Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones by 150 of his friends in pharmacy on his election to the House of Commons as member for Stepney. Sir Edward Evans (Liverpool) was in the Chair, and supporting him at the high table were (on the



SIR EDWARD EVANS.

(right) the guest of the evening, Mr. R. Winfrey, M.P., Sir Thomas Barclay (Birmingham), Mr. T. H. W. Idris, J.P., Mr. C. H. Kirby (Neve, Beck & Kirby), Mr. C. B. Allen (Kilburn), Mr. J. Harcombe Cuff, Mr. R. Bremridge (Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society), and Mr. Albert Cooper (South Kensington); while on the left were the Earl of Denbigh, C.V.O., Mr. J. C. Umney (President of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association), Mr. R. A. Robinson, D.L., Alderman H. Potter (Mayor of Stepney), Mr. G. S. Woolley, J.P. (Manchester), Professor H. G. Greenish, Mr. C. A. Hill, B.Sc. (The British Drug Houses Ltd.), Mr. J. C. Hewlett (C. J. Hewlett & Son, Ltd.), and Mr. D. T. Evans (Margate). The chairmen of the spur tables were Mr. W. R. Barnes (Plaistow), Mr. J. W. Atkinson (Upper Norwood), Mr. Ernest Sanger, Mr. Peter MacEwan (Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST), Mr. S. Kutnow, Mr. R. Feaver Clarke (Gravesend), and Mr. J. E. McCaig (Liverpool). Among the other persons present were Sir Joseph Lyons, Dr. Leon Blanc, Dr. J. Macdonald Brown, J.P., Dr. H. Kutnow, and Messrs. C. E. Ady, A. Arnold, A. R. Arrowsmith (Apollinaris Co.), G. R. Barclay and L. Barclay (Farringdon Street, E.C.), R. E. Baron and A. V. Baxter (Erasmic Co.), C. Bayley (Uppingham), C. Brooks (American Drug Stores), J. Brown, C. J. G. Bunker and S. J. Bunker (Twickenham), G. H. Burroughs (John Thompson, Ltd.), W. Chalmers, A. J. Chater, H. Clement, G. E. Cockman, H. Cocker, H. Davenport (J. T. Davenport, Ltd.), R. Davenport, L. F. Davidson, P. Davidson, W. A. Davis, J. Wellesley Douglas (London Chemists' Association), W. Edwards (W. Edwards & Son, Ltd.), J. Evans, J. E. Evans (Stratford), G. W. Evans (HammerSmith), W. C. Ford (Dockhead), J. Godfrey (Newton Chambers & Co.), A. Goldthorpe (Plumstead), W. Groves, J. W. Hall (Peterborough), E. F. Harrison, B.Sc., A. Harries (F. Newbery & Sons), Hayter (Sangers), H. W. Hickey and T. Maben (Parke, Davis & Co.), Alfred Higgs, J.P. (Kingston-on-Thames), B. Hirst (Leeds), A. E. Holden (Fairchild Bros. & Foster), E. A. Holloway (Southend), W. Idris (Idris & Co., Ltd.), W. Johnstone (Chemists' Defence Association), E. W. Jones and J. H. Martin (Armour & Co., Ltd.). D. T. Jones (Wath-

on-Dearne), J. F. S. King, G. J. Knight (Edgware Road, W.), J. D. Kiley (Whitely, Ridsdale & Co.), R. Knowles (Dockhead), A. R. Keith (Poplar), W. Lane (J. Woolley, Sons & Co., Ltd.), T. E. Lescher (Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd.), E. Linstead (Burroughs Wellcome & Co.), I. Lloyd (Chelsea), E. W. Lucas (Bell, Hills & Lucas, Ltd.), D. Mackenzie (T. & H. Smith, Ltd.), T. C. Mansell, L. Martyn, A. C. Merrin, J. Milner (Greenwich), A. Mortimer, C. Musgrave (London Chamber of Commerce), A. C. Meyjes, F. R. L. Newbery, J. C. Norwood (Wath-on-Dearne), H. Parkin, E. F. Pearson, E. S. Peck, M.A. (Cambridge), Ralph Perry, Sidney Perry, H. M. Phillips, E. Pickering and F. Pickering (F. Newbery & Sons), F. W. Powell (Blackfriars), T. J. Preston (Leeds), J. C. Pentney, J. R. Raper, Reynolds (Goodall, Backhouse & Co.), A. Ridout (Grossmith & Co.), R. A. Robinson, jun., H. H. Robins (C. Southwell & Co.), W. B. Robertson (Golder's Green), F. A. Rogers (Oxford Street), J. W. Sampson (Bath), T. H. Seed (Leyton), G. Shillcock (Bromley), N. H. Schollar (South Kensington), F. J. Smith and D. F. Smith (Sangers), F. H. Summers, J. P. Taylor, H. Walker, W. P. Want, H. S. Watson, A. T. Webb (May, Roberts & Co.), E. Whineray, Wigginton (Harrod's Stores), G. S. V. Wills, O. R. Windemer (Subbiton), E. Winzer, W. H. Wood, W. J. U. Woolcock, S. W. Woolley, and H. C. Wright (Wright, Layman & Umney, Ltd.).

An excellent dinner was well served, and Grace was sung by the Alexandra part-singers. The loyal toast was honoured, after which followed that of

THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing it, said chemists owed much to their representatives in Parliament.

The EARL OF DENBIGH replied for the House of Lords in a bright and humorous speech, in the course of which he amusingly referred to the most absorbing political topic—the Veto. He explained that he was present on that occasion through the courtesy of his friend Mr. J. C. Umney, and amid much laughter he spoke of having one thing in common even with his political opponents—he often washed; but he refrained from giving the name to the soap while he glanced at his host.

Mr. R. WINFREY spoke for the House of Commons, saying that he welcomed Mr. Glyn-Jones as a colleague at Westminster. When he (the speaker) was elected to Parliament in 1906 he believed he was the first pharmaceutical chemist to be elected to the House of Commons since the historic days of Jacob Bell, until he was joined by his colleague Mr. Idris, whom he was pleased to see present, looking younger than when he left the House of Commons. (Laughter.) Mr. Idris and he always worked well together in double harness as private members of Parliament and supporters of the Government. They did the best they could to forward pharmaceutical legislation and administration, but did not get very far, and as Mr. Idris was in much closer touch with the pharmaceutical world than he (the speaker) he naturally looked to Mr. Idris as his leader and his guide, philosopher, and friend. He very much regretted that Mr. Idris did not re-enter Parliament, for after that his (Mr. Winfrey's) difficulties began and all the responsibilities fell upon his shoulders. Indeed, so great was the burden beginning to feel that they could understand how he rejoiced at the election of Mr. Glyn-Jones to the House of Commons. (Laughter.) Some songs followed, and then came the toast of

OUR HONOURED GUEST.

Sir EDWARD EVANS, rising amid applause, said: So far the toasts must be regarded as mere padding to the great panegyrist we have met to celebrate; the other toasts must take a back seat when we have to deal with the real toast of the evening, "Our Honoured Guest." You know why such a large number of distinguished men have met here: it is to do honour to Mr. Glyn-Jones on his election to Parliament. It is not that he has so far attained any prominent political position, but because from what we

know of his character we are sure he may do so in the future. I am puzzled, however, to know why the committee sent me a unanimous request to preside at this dinner. I suppose it is because I am thought to have considerable experience of the craft by reason of the fact that I have been connected with the trade for nearly half a century. When I come to think of the dinners and conferences I have attended, the commercial travelling I have done, and the number of members of the trade I have met at that period, I think it is possibly a wise step your committee have taken. It is not on account of my political views that I am here, although, in having taken part in political matters, I cannot claim to be altogether guiltless; but we are not here to recognise a political fight or party gain. We are here for two reasons: firstly, there is the selfish one, the recognition of services rendered to ourselves in the past, with a prospect and hope of further services in the future; secondly, there is the personal recognition, from all sides of politics, of the dogged perseverance and ability which has enabled a man from small beginnings and with but poor prospects to become a member of the Bar and a member of Parliament. (Cheers.) We all wish him well in his future career. (Hear, hear.) This is not the time and place to deal with all he has done in the past; that is common knowledge to you all. So far as pharmaceutical legislation is concerned, it is as well to bear in mind that all legislation must be in the interests of the community at large; it cannot be in the interests of a section. The efforts of the Pharmaceutical Society, aided by Mr. Glyn-Jones, have been indirectly devoted to getting what they could, but not all they ought to get. Perhaps no one deserves to get all they think they should; but it is quite certain that the efforts of Mr. Glyn-Jones in the past have been to the benefit of all in the trade to which we belong. It is quite certain that it is to the interests of every individual who has goods to dispose of that he should make something out of them. When it comes to dealing with our guest's personal character, I find it more difficult. I would rather that the individual were not present when I do it, because to hear flattering things is not good for any person. One thing about Mr. Glyn-Jones that appeals to me is that he is a Welshman, like myself. (Hear, hear.) He has got Celtic blood in him, and that is the reason why he has succeeded so well as he has. Celtic blood is not to be despised, as Lord Denbigh knows, who takes his title from a very beautiful county with which I am closely connected myself. The example of Mr. Glyn-Jones is one I would desire every young man to follow. He has his own opinions, and as Britshers we admire a man who has opinions and sticks to them—we do not, as a nation, care for mugwumps. I remember how that in certain trade matters Mr. Glyn-Jones's view was not altogether acceptable, but he stuck to his guns, and it turned out that he was right after all. He aspired to the Bar, and he succeeded. Then he turned his ambitions to a political career. He came to me and asked me what I thought of his desire for an active political life. Well, the advice I am apt to give on such occasions is to leave it alone. If, however, the country is to prosper it is by its politicians, who must be men of thought, conscientiousness, and ability. Our guest has all these qualities. (Hear, hear.) It is no small matter that from being a chemist's assistant at Aberdare he is now a barrister and a member of Parliament for a division of the City of London, a division which has become rather notorious of late in connection with certain outrages, to remedy which state of affairs will require the exercise of all its member's coolness. I think you will agree with me that we have never met to do honour to a guest with greater pleasure than we do to-night, and we have never felt more that honour is due than it is to our friend. (Cheers.) This is no empty compliment, Mr. Glyn-Jones, or you would not have had the gentlemen present that I see around me. Long may you be spared to work in the interests of the craft to which you belonged. You have experienced its difficulties and know its rights. We shall now have someone to bring the wants of the trade before the authorities in power, and we know that we have in Mr. Glyn-Jones a man of energy, conviction, and know-

ledge, which will be of great advantage to ourselves. (Cheers.)

Mr. GLYN-JONES, who on rising was received with an outburst of cheers, said: I cannot help remembering an occasion like this six years ago, when, on my call to the Bar, you invited me as your guest to a dinner. I was



MR. W. S. GLYN-JONES, M.P.

seated next to an old warrior of pharmacy, who is, I regret to say, no longer with us, and as I was getting up, Michael Carteighe said to me, "Steady, boy; speak slowly." I always gratefully remember that advice. The reception you have given me shows that although we may differ in pharmaceutical politics and other matters, there is an *esprit de corps* that we all have a right to be proud of. I feel I am among friends, and my task, impossible otherwise, is made less difficult. I appreciate the great honour you have done me much more than I could say, even were I an eloquent man. I see around me friends from near and far, some from a great distance, who have met to do me honour. I feel that nothing a man can do can justify the indulgence you have shown me. I cannot help feeling the great honour you have paid me, and of which I am proud. I regard this as an occasion when you have met to show that you are pleased that one of your number has been selected to represent a constituency in Parliament. When my good friends Mr. Idris and Mr. Winfrey were returned you paid them a similar compliment, and perhaps it is good that those of our rank who take up public work should in some way be encouraged. We have with us fellow-craftsmen who have done much public work. There is Mr. R. A. Robinson, who filled the position of Chairman of the London County Council, the largest Municipal body in the world, and there is Alderman Potter, the Mayor of Stepney. It is one of our misfortunes as pharmacists that our time is so taken up with our daily work that so few of us are able to give the public the benefit of our training. It is true that considerable attention has been directed to my constituency of late, but I would not change it for any other constituency in the world. (Hear, hear.) The notoriety has been thrust upon Stepney by a handful of criminals acting from no political or religious motives, but actuated by the common instincts of the robber, and committing an outrage such as is fortunately rare in this country. It was a sensation, and the Press has made the most of it, even to branding as bombs the most innocent of tailoring implements. Irresponsible newspaper writers have given Stepney a character which is not justified. Out of a population of 300,000 persons a fifth only are aliens. It is a district which compares very favourably with any similar industrial community if gauged by the amount of crime, drunkenness, and vice that prevails. The problems involved in coping with the evils are varied and complex. There is the question of the immigration of criminals, the carrying of firearms, and

the segregation of persons in small areas, the last-named providing opportunities for rack-renting the dwellings of the poor, and adding enormously to the difficulty of tracing criminals. I trust that the authorities, in the absence of panic and sensation, will set themselves to provide remedies for the serious questions at stake, which above all must be considered without party or religious prejudices. I am prepared to defend the honour of Stepney, as I should be that of pharmacy, if I were called upon to do so. It is an easy task to defend those whose rectitude, fortitude, and patience under great difficulties and discouragements offer such a striking example, from all but those thoughtless critics whose lives are cast in pleasanter and easier places. To those who cannot understand how friends differing on some matters can meet at a dinner such as this I would like them to see a collection of letters and telegrams of congratulation which I have at home. In these is reduced to a fine art the saying of the nicest things personally and the cruellest things politically. (Laughter.) In one sense I represent a section of the community, the pharmaceutical community; but I believe that every member of Parliament knows something that is for the general good of the whole community, his constituents, and those persons whose technical knowledge he possesses. It will be my care to see that no unfair treatment is meted out to the members of our calling and the smaller tradesmen of this country. I know the difficulties under which they labour, and I do not think the average member of Parliament sufficiently appreciates how large a share of the burden of taxation is borne by tradesmen, or he would hasten on reforms in the incidence of taxation. Turning to pharmaceutical matters, there is the question of the proposed change in the methods of examination and training, which can be looked at from more than one point of view. If we regard the amount of knowledge to be gained as a commodity for which we pay a price for the purpose of gaining a livelihood—and there is much to be said from this point of view—we have got to consider the relation which the amount bears to the knowledge required in after life. It requires statesmanship to adjust this so that it does not go much farther than the needs of the business require. It is too true that there is at present but little pharmacy in the life work of pharmacists. We must also see that facilities are provided for students to obtain the necessary instructions. Then there is the question of price-protection. I have reason to be proud of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association and the Chemists' Defence Association, which I was able to establish by your co-operation. These two Associations have met with a measure of success which was not to be expected. We have now a joint balance at call of nearer 10,000*l.* than 7,000*l.* which fifteen years ago would have been thought to be impossible. In regard to the Shop-hours Bill, I can only say that if the Home Office had consulted Mr. Winfrey they would not have produced such a clause as that dealing with chemists' assistants. This Bill well affords an instance of the value of having in Parliament persons with special knowledge. We are all anxious for shorter hours, believing as we do that it is not good that ninety hours a week should be spent in the joint functions of business and eating. Assistants should have much more leisure for improvement. There is reform needed, but not on the lines proposed in the Shop-hours Bill. Then there are the questions of wine-licences, spirit for medicinal purposes (which require expert knowledge), Local Government Board matters, and army dispensers—in fact, there is scarcely a department of the Government with which pharmacy is not concerned. I only hope you will not expect too much of me. Most members of Parliament have only their constituents to consider, but if you all come to me with all your grievances I am afraid I shall not be able to satisfy everyone. I will endeavour not to make a fetish of one idea, but try to look upon these matters from a statesmanlike point of view, and I hope you will extend to me the same indulgence in the future that you have shown in the past. It is certain that anything done for the common good of pharmacists will be for the good of the general community. Some of the steps I have taken in the past you have been kind enough to

call achievements; but I am afraid you have established my claim, as any member of the Bar could do, by overlooking my shortcomings. To say that I am not proud of the compliments you have paid me would be the merest cant. You have to-night forged another fetter which binds me to the pleasant duty of serving you to the utmost extent of my ability, conscious as I am that you will never expect anything of me contrary to the interests of my constituents and the great Empire of which we are all so proud to belong. Gentlemen, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. (Loud cheers.)

In proposing the toast of

THE COMMITTEE,

Alderman H. POTTER gave some interesting and curious details about Stepney, of which he is the Mayor. It comprises five Parliamentary divisions, Mr. Glyn-Jones representing in Parliament the one known as Stepney. He mentioned also the little-known fact that persons born or married on British vessels on the high seas are registered in the parish of Stepney. Mr. Potter then passed on to the subject of the toast, and eulogistically mentioned the seven members of the Dinner Committee, who were all present except Mr. Harrington, who was prevented by indisposition.

Mr. J. C. UMLEY replied for the committee, after which Mr. R. A. ROBINSON proposed the toast of

THE CHAIRMAN.

Sir Edward, he said, is the right man in the right place—an excellent Chairman—capable in all things, and very good at most. They had had a most delightful evening, and that for a number of reasons, the chief being on account of the fact that Sir Edward Evans had occupied the chair. He is one of those silent strong men who guide the destinies of the country, and his influence has ever been enlisted in the best interests of pharmacy.

Sir EDWARD EVANS, in reply, said: My first impulse is to say "Thank you," and let the meeting disperse, but after the kind words of Mr. Robinson I must say a few more words. He referred to the letters of apology for absence which had been received. One was from Mr. Rymer Young, past President of the Pharmaceutical Society, who was unable to be present owing to his having accepted an engagement to a chemists' dinner at Blackpool. The letter stated: "You are quite right in reminding me that the Pharmacists' Representative Committee was established during my term of office and that I remain its Chairman, and it is true my term of office as President of the Pharmaceutical Society was marked by the appointment of Mr. Glyn-Jones as Parliamentary Secretary—one of the wisest things we ever did, and one that has given me lasting satisfaction." The other letter was from Mr. Walter Hills, who wrote from Ryde, Isle of Wight. As regards myself, said Sir Edward, I consider it a great honour to have been selected as your Chairman. I had my grave doubts whether it would not have been better to have appointed someone connected with the retail trade. At any rate, so far as the wholesale trade is concerned, we live and move and have our being by the efforts of the retail trade, and, therefore, the interests of the one are bound up with the interests of the other, so it is immaterial which section presides over a gathering of this character. During my pharmaceutical career I have found it a considerable advantage to get in touch with those who help to make my daily bread. In doing so (I think it may be egotistical on my part to say so) I have never forfeited the esteem and respect of those with whom I come into competition. Let it long be so—we are all engaged in a common craft—we all wish it well. (Loud cheers.)

"An Evening Song" was appropriately given here by the choir, and then the company sang together "Auld Lang Syne," dispersing shortly after eleven.

QUICKSILVER IN U.S.A.—The production in 1910 amounted to 21,500 flasks of 75 lb. net, against 20,952 flasks in 1909.

ORTHONAL is a local anaesthetic containing cocaine 0.5 gram, alypine 0.75 gram, adrenalin (1-1,000) 6 gram, and artificial serum to make 100 c.c. It is sent out in ampoules, and is employed in dentistry.

Sweet Spirit of Nitre.

A warranty plea in a Sale of Food and Drugs Acts case at Birkenhead is successful, and incidentally the defence proves that the spirit deteriorates by evaporation and decomposition.

At the Birkenhead Police Court on Friday, January 27, James Duncan McIntyre, chemist and druggist, 87 Grange Road, Birkenhead, was summoned for selling sweet spirit of nitre deficient in ethyl nitrite to the extent of 22 per cent. Defendant relied upon his warranty.

Mr. Edmund Spencer, Deputy Town Clerk for the Borough, prosecuted, and Mr. William Rudd (instructed by Messrs. Neve, Beck & Kirby, solicitors to the Chemists' Defence Association) was for the defendant. Mr. Philip Cohen, of Birmingham, watched on behalf of the warrantors, Messrs. Southall Bros. & Barclay, Ltd., Birmingham.

Mr. Spencer stated that the prosecution was laid under Section 6 of the Sale of Drugs Act, 1875. On December 15 Inspector Moore called at defendant's shop in Grange Road and purchased 4 oz. of the drug. When he received his purchase, for which he paid 1s. 7d., he told defendant of his intention to have the sample analysed. He divided it into three portions, when defendant asked if the bottles were free from water. The inspector replied that they were, and had he known before defendant could have examined them. Later in the day Inspector Moore sent one sample by registered post to Mr. Carter Bell, who certified that the sample was deficient in ethyl nitrite to the extent of 22 per cent. This was based on the fact that there was only 1.36 of ethyl nitrite, whereas the minimum allowed according to the British Pharmacopœia was 1.75. Mr. Spencer read extracts from the Pharmacopœia and from the warrantors' price list showing that the British Pharmacopœia was the standard. Mr. Rudd wrote to him on January 6 enclosing a certificate of an analysis of defendant's portion of the sample made by Mr. Thomas Tickle, Exeter, who certified that the sample contained 1.42 of ethyl nitrite, as against 1.36 found by Mr. Bell, while the amount of alcohol and other constituents was 98.58, against 98.64 according to Mr. Bell. In his observations, Mr. Tickle stated that the sample was contained in a bottle having a capacity more than three times the volume of the sample, and that this was a condition favourable to the loss of ethyl nitrite. According to Mr. Tickle, Mr. Spencer added, it seemed it was possible that the sample was up to standard when purchased, and must have lost by evaporation between December 15 and December 50, when Mr. Tickle analysed it. Mr. Carter Bell would tell the Bench that if that was the suggestion it was untenable.

Samuel H. Moore, inspector, supported this statement.

Mr. Carter Bell, public analyst to the Birkenhead Corporation for over thirty years, presented his certificate, which stated that the sample submitted to him was deficient of ethyl nitrite to the extent of 22 per cent. If the drug was kept carelessly, it would evaporate, resulting in a deterioration of the spirit; but if kept in a dark, cool place and properly corked the loss would hardly be appreciable. He received his sample for analysis in a plain glass bottle, the drug occupying about a third of the space.

The examination of witness proceeded thus :

Mr. Spencer : What is your opinion as to the possibility of substantial evaporation of the spirit in that bottle?—None, practically speaking.

That is to say, assuming the sample was taken in the way described there would be no substantial evaporation?—None worth speaking about.

Would it account for the difference between the 1.75 allowed as a minimum by the British Pharmacopœia and the actual amount of ethyl nitrite?—No; if it was purchased in a poor state, it would arrive in a poor state.

Mr. Rudd pointed out that the bottle (produced) from which defendant measured out the 4 oz. for Mr. Moore was amber-coloured, and asked witness if that was not a great precaution.

Mr. Bell : I believe there is not much in it.

Is it not suggested by analysts of repute that by keeping such drugs in amber-coloured bottles in a dark, cool place they are less liable to deteriorate?—I believe so.

The amber-coloured glass is to keep the light from it—Yes.

You do not suggest to the Bench that taking a sample and placing it in a white-glass bottle two-thirds too large was the proper way?—I do not see any objection to these bottles if the sweet spirit of nitre was correct when he sealed it.

Mr. Rudd suggested that the sample should have been delivered by hand and not sent through the post, but Mr. Bell did not agree.

For the defence Mr. Rudd said that his case rested under two heads. There was no suggestion, as he understood there would be, against the honesty of his client, and there was no doubt that the people from whom he bought the drug were a firm of the highest standing. Defendant bought the stock in small quantities because ethyl nitrite was of a most elusive character. Not only did it evaporate, but also underwent changes in keeping, which affected the quantity of the ethyl nitrite. With regard to the warranty, it was duly in order, and if he satisfied the Bench that his client sold the article in the state in which he bought it he was entitled to have the summons dismissed. He (Mr. Rudd) would show that what he questioned Mr. Carter Bell upon actually happened in that case. Defendant bought the spirit from the manufacturers, and then stored it in a cool, dark cellar. The bottle was amber-coloured and was wrapped in parchment, while linseed was placed on the stopper. About a week before the inspector called defendant brought up the bottle into the shop, and had only served two or three customers with small quantities. His client, knowing the extreme likelihood of evaporation of the ethyl nitrite, took great care in regard to the stopper. Secondly, he submitted that the article when sold was up to standard. Mr. Rudd also spoke in regard to the manner in which the sample was taken, deprecating it.

Defendant gave evidence explaining how he stored the bottle, and how Inspector Moore divided the sample. It was a very volatile spirit and needed very careful handling.

Replying to Mr. Spencer, defendant said he did not mention about the sample bottles being too large to the inspector.

Ernest William Mann, F.C.S., expert chemist to the warrantors, said his business was to test all his firm's manufactures. He pointed out the extremely volatile properties of the drug and its rapid evaporation by pouring some on his hand. He said the drug was sent out from the laboratories 5 per cent. greater in strength than required in consequence of its liability to deteriorate. Defendant could not have kept the spirit under better conditions than those described. It was not fair to the seller to take samples in the manner described by the inspector, it being very important that the bottle should be full, leaving less space for the accumulation of ether vapours. Replying to Mr. Spencer, witness said that if there was no space for volatilisation no change would take place. Witness produced a sealed tube of ethyl nitrite, broke off the tip, and showed how, by merely holding in the hand, the nitrite boiled and evaporated. The tube was passed up to the magistrates for their inspection. They having consulted,

The Chairman (Mr. Peter W. Atkin) said they found that this sample was in fact 22 per cent. deficient. It had been properly kept by the defendant, who sold it in the same condition as he received it. Defendant therefore relied successfully upon his warranty.

The case was accordingly dismissed.

[Several chemists and druggists were present, and they cheered the solicitor and witnesses for the defence when they reached the street after the case.]

HONOLULU HONEY.—The honey industry, which is comparatively new (says the British Consul at Hawaii), is steadily growing. It now represents an investment of \$200,000, and yields annually about \$70,000 worth of honey.

THE Brazilian "Diario" of January 3 contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply from Europe of medicinal products, drugs, appliances, etc., to the Military Pharmaceutical Laboratory. Tenders are to be made out in pounds sterling, and, accompanied by a deposit of 3,000 milreis (200.), are to be forwarded to the "Comissão de Compras do Laboratorio Chimico Pharmaceutico Militar," Rio de Janeiro, by whom they will be opened on March 2. Local representation is necessary.

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the seven Societies and Associations of Chemists in British South Africa, as well as to other chemists in business there.

Cape of Good Hope.

RAILWAY DISASTER.—During the early hours of Thursday morning, January 5, a terrible accident happened to the up mail train from East London near Cathcart, Cape Colony. Twenty-two were killed, and a full list of the injured is computed at thirty, but probably when all details are known the number will exceed this. Among the dead is a Mr. Peter Cowie, northern representative of Messrs. C. E. Gardner & Co., Ltd., wholesale druggists, Port Elizabeth. Dr. Holcroft, of Aliwal North, was also aboard the train, and injured. Dr. Robertson, of Cathcart, in spite of having two ribs broken, rendered splendid service to the injured passengers.

THE GOVERNMENT AND LICENCES.—The Government of South Africa, in so far as the Cape Province is concerned, looked for trouble at the beginning of the year in connection with licences. No new laws have been passed, but the officials made some new ones of their own. For instance, no joint-stock company could get a joint-stock licence unless it produced its last balance sheet. The Cape Town Chamber of Commerce says this is illegal, and that the demand made by the Government Departments in connection with other licences is also illegal.

Orange Free State.

MR. L. GREAVES, of Messrs. C. E. Gardner & Co., Ltd., passed the examination of the O.F.S. Medical and Pharmacy Council for chemists in December 1910.

THE CONTRACT for the supply of drugs and dressings to the National Hospital, Bloemfontein, for the year 1911 has been secured by the local branch of Messrs. C. E. Gardner & Co., Ltd.

A NOTICE appearing in the "Government Gazette" announces that documents for use in South Africa may be signed in London at the office of the High Commissioner and may be attested there by Messrs. Burns, Nightingale, and Russell. This should be noted by chemists and druggists at home who think of going out to Orange River Colony.

'CHEMISTS' TRAVELLER KILLED.—Our Orange Free State correspondent, writing in regard to the railway disaster above mentioned, says: Mr. Peter Cowie's headquarters were Bloemfontein. He was representative of Messrs. C. E. Gardner & Co., Ltd., chemists. The cause of the accident had not been made public when our correspondent wrote, but it would appear that in taking a sharp curve at full speed the train was derailed and fell down the embankment. The accident occurred shortly after midnight at a lonely spot far from help. Mr. Cowie held the qualification of chemist of Cape Colony and was registered in the Orange River Colony in 1903. He was only thirty-two years of age, and was a native of Keir, Dumfrieshire. His mother, whose chief support he was, is still alive, while he has a brother in Bulawayo and a sister in Kimberley. The funeral took place at Bloemfontein Cemetery. A short service was conducted by the Rev. A. Carlisle at the residence of Mr. Greaves (Messrs. C. E. Gardner & Co., Ltd.). The funeral cortège consisted of twenty-seven carriages. The following were the societies represented: The Medical and Pharmacy Council, by Dr. Ward (President); Pharmaceutical Society, by Mr. S. S. Hewitt; Ramblers Club, by Mr. L. Richardson; the C.S.A.R., by Mr. J. D. Shannon; and representatives from Lennon's, Peterson's, Orange Pharmacy, Heynes, Mathew & Co., Central Pharmacy, F. Carter, and Westlake. Mr. Webb, of Kroonstad, and Mr. Fowlie, of Brandfort, represented the country chemists. The bearers were Messrs. Greaves, Alexander, Westlake, Wardley, Clarke, and Whiteside, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Transvaal.

TRANSVAAL PHARMACY BOARD ELECTION.—The election for three members of the Transvaal Pharmacy Board to hold office for the period of three years commencing January 1, 1911, resulted as follows:

Charles Keir, Johannesburg	...	...	...	122
B. Owen Jones, Boksburg	...	...	...	117
Robert Butters, Johannesburg	...	...	...	96
Alexander Rennie, Johannesburg	...	...	...	70
Edwin John Adecock, Krugersdorp	...	...	...	50
Pieter Jacobus Spruyt, Pretoria	...	...	...	30

The first three, together with the Government nominees, Messrs. J. H. Dinwoodie, Johannesburg, and W. Harvey, Heidelberg, and a member to be nominated by the newly constituted Transvaal Medical Council, now complete the new Board.

Transvaal Pharmacy Board.

THE CLOSING meeting of the old Board was held in the Board's office, Johannesburg, on Friday, December 23, 1910. Mr. B. Owen Jones, M.P.C., presiding. Messrs. J. H. Dinwoodie, R. Butters, J. R. Jones, C. Keir, and the Secretary (Mr. W. A. J. Cameron) were also present.

SAMPLES OF MEDICINES CONTAINING POISON.—In regard to the distribution of free samples, the Under-Secretary for the Interior transmitted the following opinion from the legal adviser:

"The provisions of Part V. of Ordinance 29 of 1904 are confined to the sale of poison, and do not extend to prohibit the gift or free distribution of such drugs. I know of no provision of law by which the practice may be controlled or checked."

It was agreed that the Board represent to the Secretary for the Interior the desirability of the precautionary measures to be enacted in the proposed Union Medical and Pharmacy Act as regards the sale of poisons being extended to include the free distribution of poisons.

COLOURING OF POISONS.—A minute by the Government analyst advocating the colouring of poisons sold by general dealers for agricultural and industrial purposes was forwarded by the Under-Secretary for the Interior for favour of an expression of the views of the Board thereon. It was decided to refer the matter to the incoming Board for consideration.

The following **APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION** as chemists and druggists were approved: Alexander Henderson Young, John Elias Edwards-Blair, and Fleetwood Graham Carnegie, all holding the Transvaal Pharmacy Board diploma.

A CHEMIST AND A COMPANY.—Information was laid by the Transvaal Medical Council with regard to the conduct of a registered chemist in associating himself with a company, the manager of which, who held no qualification whatever, had been convicted of a contravention of the Medical and Pharmacy Ordinance. It was agreed to ask the chemist for an explanation.

ERASURES FROM THE REGISTER.—The following names were ordered to be erased from the Register of Chemists and Druggists, no answer having been received to a registered letter sent to the last registered address of the persons concerned within the statutory period of six months from the date of posting thereof: J. E. Allen, M. Cashmore, W. T. Crane, M. S. K. Cohn, G. E. Couldry, C. J. Eynon, E. S. Francis, R. G. Govier, T. M. Howell, W. A. Lambert-Shea, R. A. Munkman, J. C. Stokoe, C. Weller, A. W. Willmott.

ANNUAL REPORT.—An abstract of the work of the Board for the period July 1909 to December 1910 was laid on the table, after which the President reviewed briefly the outstanding features of the work dealt with during the Board's three years' term of office. Mr. Owen Jones concluded by thanking the members for the support they had given him during his occupancy of the presidential chair, and referred to Mr. J. R. Jones who, he regretted, was severing his connection with the Board.—Mr. Dinwoodie endorsed the President's words in regard to Mr. J. R. Jones, and moved a vote of thanks to the President for the services rendered by him during his three years' term of office. This was seconded by Mr. Keir and carried unanimously.—Mr. J. R. Jones thanked the President and members, and the proceedings terminated after a vote of thanks had been accorded to the Secretary.

The subjects dealt with in the annual report of proceedings were: (1) Sale of poisonous medicinal preparations by general dealers; (2) disciplinary functions of the Board; (3) amendment of the Medical and Pharmacy Act; (4) Medical and Pharmacy Act for Union—all of which have been dealt with in previous reports. As to the last subject, it was stated that the matter prepared at the Conference is now in the hands of the Minister for the Interior, with whom rests the final drafting of a Medical and Pharmacy Bill. Three examinations have been held during the period covered by the report. Fourteen candidates presenting themselves, of whom six passed. Besides these six registered, twenty persons were admitted on diplomas granted by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, and three on the licence of the

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. The statement of accounts for 1909-10, duly certified by the Auditor-General, showed revenue £497. 17s. 2d., of which £47. 17s. 2d. was received as a grant-in-aid from Government. The expenditure amounted to £507. 10s. 8d., leaving a debit balance owing to the bank at June 30, 1910, of £3s. 6d.

Shop-hours in the Transvaal.

In this article a home chemist in the Transvaal tells how the compulsory provisions as to closing work out in practice. The writer has in view the proposals for similar legislation at home.

DURING these days of labour crises and social reforms one only expects to find in nearly every newspaper or journal an article treating with one aspect or another of the under-current of discontent that culminates in the upheaval of an erstwhile "stick-in-the-mud" state of affairs. It is therefore not surprising to read in the *C. & D.* various articles for and against the Shop Hours Bill, or rather those clauses of the Bill which directly affect chemists.

I have not seen the Bill, and therefore do not know the details of it; but, with a view to discovering any new suggestion to those chemists who are taking a live interest in the Bill, I am writing my experience of the Shop Hours Act as applied to the chemists of the Transvaal. Among the definitions of the Act, "closed" is defined as follows: "'Closed' in relation to a shop shall mean closed *against the admission* of any person for the purpose of buying or obtaining goods or merchandise." Under the clause "Special hours for closing certain shops" the provision is made that in any shop where the business of a chemist or druggist is carried on, medical requirements may be supplied at any hour on weekdays, Sundays, and public holidays upon special call. In the first place, the Act permits chemists' shops to be open on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M., although it is stipulated that during the hour 7 to 8 P.M. prescriptions can be dispensed and medical requirements only can be supplied. On Wednesday, 1 P.M. is the hour of closing, with permission to reopen between 7 and 8 again for medical requirements. On Saturday, 8 A.M. to 9 P.M. are the hours of business, with no restriction. On Sundays and holidays chemists may open from 10 to 12 and 5.30 to 7.30 to dispense or supply medical requirements. Before the Act came into force a very irregular system of keeping open shop prevailed among the chemists, some establishments being closed only for a few hours between a very late hour at night and a very early hour in the morning, not that it was in any way "meeting a public demand," as a few benevolent chemists are always ready to justify their doing so by saying. However, when the Bill came along the Johannesburg chemists, at any rate, welcomed it quite gladly. They did not want to keep open until midnight any more than the grocer or the baker; and now that "Goldstuck & Co." are compelled to close at 8, it is a distinct boon to "Brown" to be compelled to close at 8 also. Practically no business was lost through having to close earlier. On Wednesday evening much inconvenience was at first experienced in being rushed, but that is gradually wearing off. On Sundays and holidays it was only to be expected that a falling-off in returns on such days would result, owing to the curtailment of the hours of business; but as all suffer equally in this respect, there is no particular grievance, and it is hoped that what money is not taken on Sunday is made up for on Monday or Tuesday. The closing at 9 o'clock on Saturday is, in the opinion of many, a distinct mistake. The hour ought to have been 10 o'clock, when one remembers that the middle and working classes do most of their shopping on Saturday nights; 9 o'clock does not allow sufficient time for those people in outlying districts to have their dinner or tea and get into town to shop. The streets are usually thronging with people just at the hour of closing, and consequently much "catch trade" is lost, not only to the chemist, who lays himself out for this particular business, but to other traders. In Johannesburg business is done in very much the same way as in a great many towns in Great Britain, and I can hardly think that a similar Act would not be workable in Great Britain, always bearing in mind that special provision could be made in the various towns and districts of the larger towns, according to the nature of the business done and the principal hours of shopping in that town or district.

CANADIAN NEWS.

(From the "*C. & D.*" Correspondent)

INCREASED DISPENSING PRICES.—The Canadian Pharmaceutical Association has under consideration a proposition for a general increase in the price of prescriptions given by doctors, under which scale an 8-oz. mixture

will cost not less than \$1. The reason advanced by druggists is that the cut-rate and departmental stores have made such inroads on their general business that some means will have to be taken to recoup themselves, and this is considered the most advisable. Under the proposed scale of prices all kinds of standard tablets and powders, as well as liquids, will be 50 per cent. dearer.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.—At the quarterly examination in Montreal and Quebec last month twenty-two candidates presented themselves. The following names, by order of merit, are of those who have passed: J. E. Lachaine, P. Gadbois, A. Weinfield, A. de Bellefeuille, Ernest St. Jacques, A. Bourgeois, R. Filion, Max Schacter, and Felix Berlin. The following passed in all subjects but one, and will have to present themselves again: Jos. A. Lagarde, Raoul Brunelle, and R. Gougeon.

COCAINE ACT.—Owing to the alarming extent to which the cocaine-habit has developed in Montreal and other large cities of the Dominion, legislation of a drastic description is about to be introduced which will put an absolute ban on the sale of cocaine in the Dominion of Canada except for medicinal purposes. The Hon. Mackenzie King, C.M.G., introduced the Bill in the House of Commons in the week ending January 28, and it is expected to pass without opposition. Mr. Mackenzie King is incorporating the Cocaine Act in the Act to prohibit the sale of opium. He has obtained the permission of the Senate to the insertion of the cocaine clause in the Bill; and Mrs. Henderson, of Montreal, a prominent member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, has been in Ottawa consulting with the Minister on the proposed legislation. She had several conferences with Mr. King, and also interviewed the Governor-General and Lady Grey, at the latter's request. Their Excellencies took the deepest interest in the proposed legislation, and the Governor-General expressed his personal sympathy with Mrs. Henderson's aims in the matter. She also had the assistance of the Trades and Labour Council. The Bill will make it impossible for anyone to obtain cocaine except by means of a medical certificate or prescription, and a new certificate must be presented with every sale. It provides a fine of \$500 for the first offence, as a punishment for the illegal sale of the drug, and imprisonment for a second conviction. Buyers will also be liable to punishment, and careful watch will be kept over them.

AUSTRALASIAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of nine Societies of Chemists in Australia and New Zealand, as well as to other Chemists in business there.

New Zealand.

A MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS BILL has been introduced by the Minister of Health. Clause 32 reads: "Nothing in this Act shall affect the lawful occupation, trade, or business of any registered pharmaceutical chemist, registered dentist, registered midwife, or registered nurse." The Bill provides a Medical Board with machinery similar to that of the Pharmacy Board. A feature is that the rights of existing registrations are not to be conserved. A new Register is to be compiled, and those who have been at any time convicted of an indictable offence or are otherwise not of good fame or character may be excluded from registration. The qualifications to be recognised are those of graduate in medicine and surgery of the University of New Zealand, inclusion in the Register of the United Kingdom, or being eligible for such registration, or the holding of a diploma approved by the Board granted by any University or institution (not British and not New Zealand) after a course of at least five years' study. Reciprocity is provided for. Every person desiring to be registered under the Act must give one month's notice of his intention to apply for registration, to be published in the "Gazette," and also in some newspaper circulating in the district in which he resides or intends to practise. Any person may object in writing to his registration, and shall specify the grounds of his objection.

Liverpool Chemists' Association.

M R. G. V. C. LAST, the new President of this, one of the oldest chemists' provincial associations in Great Britain, gave his inaugural address at the meeting held at the Royal Institution, Liverpool, on Thursday, January 26. Mr. Last has been connected with pharmacy since 1892, when he was apprenticed. In 1895 he obtained the Pharmaceutical Society's silver medal for a herbarium of British plants. He passed the Minor examination in April 1896 and the Major in January 1897, before he reached his twenty-second birthday. Immediately after becoming a pharmaceutical chemist he purchased the business of Mr. A. Sutton at 80 Holt Road, Liverpool, with a branch in Edgehill. He remained at

80 Holt Road until December 1903, when he was unfortunate in litigation through a customer claiming £50*l.* damages arising out of the sale of an indiarubber hot-water bottle. This litigation extended to nearly two years. In 1907 Mr. Last took over the business of Mr. R. Cleave, 157A Lodge Lane, Liverpool, and since then has taken an active interest in the affairs of the Liverpool Chemists' Association, having been the Secretary for two years. He is a popular President, and in his

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last week gave some indication of the reason why, for it was devoted to the Association and the interest of the members rather than pharmacy at large. The Association was founded in 1855, and Mr. Last specially referred to the Presidential address given by Mr. John Shaw in 1862, who had mentioned that Mr. Robert Clay, the first President of the Association, had remarked that "It is no very difficult matter to set a society agoing, but the difficulty often consists in keeping it afloat." Mr. Last said: "It is pleasing to note, in view of the interest taken in the conduct of our affairs at the present moment and the healthy appearance of our ordinary meetings and social gatherings, that the difficulty anticipated then shows no signs of materialising even after the lapse of nearly half a century." Mr. Last then referred to the change which has come over pharmacy. Now the majority of shops present a brighter and brisker appearance, and there has been a particularly marked improvement in window-dressing, while the pharmacist himself appears to have become more alert and businesslike. Men are now inclined to pay more and more attention to the commercial aspect of pharmacy at the expense of the professional, and as a natural consequence they are expecting the local Associations and other trade organisations to give greater prominence to the consideration of trade matters. Mr. Last proceeded to speak of the criticism which the Association has been subjected to during the past few sessions, and, while not resenting it, claimed that the Association is capable of much service for local pharmacists, and insisted that the first element for success in helping them is their regular attendance and contributions by speech or otherwise to the business in hand. He then touched upon early closing, which, he remarked, this Association has taken up on three occasions, first between thirty and forty years ago, and second about twenty years ago; each of these attempts has been sufficiently productive of lasting effects to justify the efforts expended at the time. The third occasion was two sessions ago, and has not by any means been without result. It is obviously impossible to solve a problem like this in one session, and if the Association should decide to take the matter in hand again, it should be with the distinct understanding that any committee then formed would not be expected to be able to complete its labours in one year, for it is only by sustained effort that we can hope to make early closing general. He solicited the



MR. G. V. C. LAST.

sympathy and help of the members in this matter, and proceeded to speak about co-operative buying. Recently there have been a few isolated ventures of such buying in Liverpool. He spoke of the advantages which might be gained through better organisation in this regard, suggesting that for a start it would be advisable to try a few proprietary lines, and if these should prove successful they might gradually extend. He insisted that loyal combination, no price-cutting, and cash payments would be essential for the success of the scheme, and said that if an Association can conduct some scheme either of co-operative buying or anything else which will show some material advantage to its members, it will gain both in popularity and membership. He then discussed the suggestion of appointing a Business Committee to act in an advisory capacity on all business affairs, mentioning the success of the "Liverpool Chemists' Price-list," which has gone through fifteen editions, as evidence of the Association's capability for taking up other business matters.

Other business of the meeting is referred to elsewhere in this issue.

The Curriculum Discussed.

THE quarterly meeting of the Three Towns Chemists' Association was held at 7 Wimpole Street, Plymouth, on January 26. The President (Mr. F. A. Spear) occupied the chair. Those present also included Messrs. E. G. Turney (Treasurer), C. J. Park, R. F. Roper, F. W. Hunt, J. D. Turney, W. Condy U'Ren, F. A. Goodwin, H. D. Davey, S. A. Perkins, Cyril U'Ren, N. Barber, Harvey, Hancock, Martin, Gollop, Stephens, Stephenson, and F. J. Barge (Hon. Secretary). The President accepted a framed portrait of the late Mr. Michael Carteige, presented by Mr. C. J. Park, and said that it would hang in the Association's room.

The draft scheme for the division of the Minor and the establishment of a curriculum of study was discussed at some length. The President said that if such a fundamental change was required, it had to be considered what benefits would be derived from it. Mr. C. J. Park thought a curriculum would help to raise the status of pharmacy, making it more difficult for outsiders to get registered. Mr. F. W. Hunt thought that apprenticeship to a registered pharmacist should be made compulsory, but did not agree that the large number of lectures specified in the draft scheme should be made so. Mr. R. F. Roper thought the suggested class work in practical pharmacy and dispensing was unnecessary, and that it cast a slur on their craft. He thought that, as the curriculum was worded, apprenticeship would be avoided, and that would be only digging their own graves. Mr. U'Ren did not think the curriculum was called for, but agreed to the division of the Qualifying examination. Mr. J. D. Turney thought that a curriculum would produce better trained men, but that apprenticeship should count in dispensing and pharmacy. He would like to ask if the total cost to the student would be more or less than at present. Mr. Goodwin said he would prefer that the Government took over the examinations.

The following resolution was then carried:

"That this meeting approves of the division of the Qualifying examination and the principle of a curriculum of study without committing itself to the details of that curriculum. Also it considers that indentures of apprenticeship to a registered pharmacist for at least three years should be presented to the Registrar as evidence, etc., before the Final examination is taken, and that the Intermediate shall not be taken till at least twelve months of that apprenticeship has been undergone."

The Cambridge and District Pharmaceutical Association also discussed the proposals at a meeting held at 19 St. Andrew's Street, the residence of the President (Mr. E. H. Church), on Friday, January 27. The President said the committee had thought it desirable that this question should be discussed by the unqualified junior pharmacists and then by the members of the Association. He asked Mr. Wood to report. This he did, saying that the juniors were not in favour of supporting the proposed curriculum for the following reasons:

1. The extra expense which the curriculum would entail.
 2. The disadvantages that a great number of apprentices would labour under in order to attend the necessary lectures, especially in small towns.

There was a feeling that the division of the Minor would be advantageous, and a desire was expressed to know what was meant by an "approved institution." Also would it be compulsory on the part of the employer to allow the apprentice the necessary time to attend these proposed lectures; and finally the following resolution was carried unanimously:

"That considering the condition of pharmacy in Great Britain at the present time and what the average man has to look forward to after qualification, this meeting does not consider the enforcement of a curriculum of study either desirable or necessary for registration as a pharmacist."

Alderman A. S. Campkin then opened the discussion, and was followed by Mr. Cook, Mr. Evans, Mr. Course, Mr. Wood, Mr. Deck, Mr. T. J. Mallett, and Mr. B. S. Campkin, the last-named moving:

"That this Association approves of the principles of a curriculum."

Mr. J. Evans seconded the resolution. The speaking had been chiefly against the proposed curriculum, but in favour of the examination division. Mr. E. Saville Peck was then called upon, and in the course of his speech endeavoured to answer the arguments of those who were against the institution of any sort of curriculum.

The Chairman then put the motion, when five voted for it and three against, nine remaining neutral. It was decided to forward this resolution to the Pharmaceutical Council and adjourn the subject for further discussion.

TRADE-MARKS.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications must be stated on Form T.M. No. 7 obtainable at Money Order Offices for £1) and lodged with Mr. Temple Franks, Comptroller-General, Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned.

The figures in parentheses refer to the classes in which the marks are desired.

- (From the "Trade-marks Journal," January 18, 1911.)
 "NUVITÉ"; for a beverage (42). By Nuvité Co., Ltd., 166 Unthank Road, Norwich. 328,180.
 "LECINA"; for perfumed soaps (48). By F. Mulhens, Glockengasse 4711, Cologne. 328,866.
 "LAIT 'LAROLA,' " and label design; for a toilet-preparation (48). By M. Beetham & Son, 2 Imperial Lane, Cheltenham. 328,916.
 "EUCRYL TOOTH-POWDER," and label bearing snake design; for tooth-powder (48). By Eucryl, Ltd., 447 Wincolmlee, Kingston-upon-Hull. 329,027.
 "INECTO"; for all goods (48). By Emile et Cie., 24 Conduit Street, London, W. 329,588.

- (From the "Trade-marks Journal," January 25, 1911.)
 "KYSOL"; for sanitary chemicals (2). By Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland, 40 Mary Street, Dublin. 329,260.
 Device of man's arm; for medicated articles (3). By Frame Food Co., Ltd., Standen Road, Southfields, London, S.W. 328,140.
 "PASTA PLECTURAL," and label device; for medicated pastilles (3). By S. Andreu y Grau, 66 Rambla de Cataluna, Barcelona. 322,435.
 "WINCARNIS," and label device; for a food-beverage (3, 42, and 43). By Coleman & Co., Ltd., "Wincarnis" Works, Norwich. 325,948, 325,947, 325,949.
 "FERN OINTMENT," and label device; for an ointment (3). By Fern Spécialité Co., 69 Corporation Street, Manchester. 326,856.

- "ZAN-UVA BALM," and label device; for a medicine (3). By Zan-Uva Balm Co., 6 Great Turnstile, High Holborn, London, W.C. 327,521.
 "IODOCINE"; for an anaesthetic (3). By G. Fetherston & Co., 25 Acton Vale, London, W. 328,799.
 "PROMINAL"; for photographs and photographic paper (39). By Anilin Manfg. Co., Ltd., Treptower Bridge, Berlin. 329,206.
 "BONNIE PRINCE CHARLIE," and portrait; for perfumery, etc. (48). By Vinolia Co., Ltd., 41a Upper Thames Street, London, E.C. 328,246, 323,412.

- "BONFIRE"; for perfumery (48). By W. Gossage & Sons, Ltd., Widnes, Lancs. 328,362.
 "DISTOL"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By T. Kerfoot, Bardley Vale Mills, near Ashton-under-Lyne. 328,675.
 Device of two points of interrogation (one reversed) in frame; for perfumery, etc. (48). By "Myne-iz" Co., 50 Birmingham Palace Road, London, S.W. 329,000.
 "DEWETTE"; for all goods (48). By Wocan, Francis & Co., Cromwell Buildings, Blackfriars Street, Manchester. 329,180.
 "THRONE"; for polishes (50). By Edward Cook & Co., Ltd., East London Soap Works, Bow, London, E. 326,432.

PATENT SPECIFICATIONS.

Printed copies of the following specifications are on sale (8d. each) at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London, W.C., a fortnight after the notice of acceptance has appeared in the "Official Journal" (Patents) of the given dates. Persons desirous of opposing the grant of a patent must do so in the prescribed form within two months from the date of the "Journal" in which the notice appeared.

January 11, 1911.

- FILTERING LIQUIDS, SYRUPS, AND SUCHLIKE. 3452/10. Brownson.
 APPARATUS FOR NARCOTISING ANIMALS. 8968/10. Bergsmüller.
 DEVELOPMENT OF OXYGEN. 10066/10. Sarason.
 APPARATUS FOR CLOSING COLLAPSIBLE TUBES. 13018/10. Sokal. (Carl Engler, Ltd.)
 PRODUCTION OF CAOUTCHOUC-LIKE SUBSTANCE. 14281/10. Johnson. (Badische Anilin & Soda Fabrik.)
 INSTRUMENT FOR CUTTING BANDAGES. 14369/10. Hasselmann.
 TREATING BAGS FOR CHEMICAL MANURE. 19473/10. De Guide & Briart.

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- PYROPHORIC ALLOYS. 684/10. Goldberg.
 SALTS OF UREA. 816/10. Gelhaar.
 MERCURIAL BAROMETERS. 1049/10. Halliwell.
 SHEEP-MARKING COMPOSITIONS. 1128/10. Collinson & Collinson.
 PREPARATION OF OXYGEN BATHS. 1458/10. Max Elb, Ges. ANEMOMETER. 4693/10. Scattergood.
 APPARATUS FOR STERILISING WATER. 4775/10. Cartault.
 MEDICINAL SMOKING MIXTURE. 7594/10. Davies.
 COMPOUND OF SANTALOL AND LACTIO ACID. 7721/10. Mason.
 LIQUID SOAP DISTRIBUTOR. 9542/10. Boye.
 RINGWORM OINTMENT. 9562/10. Needham.
 FERTILISER, INSECTICIDE, AND FUNGICIDE. 10511/10. Stock.
 CONTAINERS FOR COMPRESSED OR LIQUEFIED GAS. 10609/10. Campbell.
 ORNAMENTING COPPER SURFACES. 17262/10. Wallach.
 PRODUCING AMMONIUM SULPHATE IN GAS-MAKING. 17359/10. Burkheimer.
 GRANULAR SODIUM BICHROMATE. 19677/10. R. Wedekind & Co.
 MANUFACTURE OF OXALIC AND OTHER ORGANIC ACIDS, ETC. 19679/10. Deiss & Fournier.
 FERTILISERS. 19706/10. Forbes & Macfarlane.
 MANUFACTURE OF BLEACHING LIQUIDS. 21411/10. Deutsche Solvay Werke Akt.-Ges.
 EYEGLASS CASES. 25526/10. Payton.
 COAGULATING THE LATEX OF CAOUTCHOUC-PRODUCING PLANTS. 26173/10. W. Pahl.
 LIQUID MEDICINE FOR INTERNAL USE. 26716/10. Kippax.

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- COMPOUNDS OF GUANIDINE. 815/10. Gelhaar & Carlson.
 DESTROYING BACTERIA IN WATER-SUPPLY SYSTEMS. 2424/10. Henri, Helbronner & Von Recklinghausen.
 DRYING WHITE LEAD, ETC. 4789/10. Summers.
 HYDROGEN-PRODUCING APPARATUS. 11878/10. Lane.
 COLLAPSIBLE TUBES. 12111/10. Friis-Smith.
 LABELLING-MACHINES. 15834/10 and 19258/10. Maynes.
 X-RAY SCREEN OR SHIELD. 17782/10. Myers.
 ELECTRO-MEDICAL ELECTRODE-HOLDERS. 21389/10. Siemens Bros. & Co. (Siemens & Halske Akt.-Ges.)
 PORTABLE BREATHING-APPARATUS. 27466/10. Dräger & Drägerwerk, Heinr. & Bernh. Dräger.

SPECIFICATIONS OPEN FOR INSPECTION.

- MOISTURE-PROOF COMPOSITION FOR TREATING LEATHER. 14586/10. Rampichini.
 MANUFACTURE OF BLEACHING LIQUIDS. 21411/10. Deutsche Solvay-Werke Akt.-Ges.
 SEPARATING COLLOIDAL SUBSTANCES FROM PSEUDO-SOLUTIONS. 23466/10. Richter & Richter & Von Orth.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with. Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest. Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

Ticket-writing.

SIR.—We have read with interest the excellent article on ticket-writing in the Winter Number of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, and to enable our customers to give practical effect to the writer's suggestion we have at once prepared the ammoniated quinine with cinnamon showcards, and we shall be very pleased to send a couple of these, free of charge, to any of our customers who apply for them. Permit us to congratulate you on the number of extremely useful suggestions which you give the retail chemist in the pages of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

Yours faithfully,

THE STANDARD TABLET & PILL CO., LTD.
Hove, January 28.

The "Year-book of Pharmacy."

SIR.—I have read Mr. Finnemore's letter, and it seems to me that, seeing that he is quite innocent of altering the manuscript of the "Year-book of Pharmacy," there was not the least occasion for him to say a word on the subject. But Mr. Finnemore's innocence or ignorance does not alter the fact that the word "heroin" appears in the index and not in the text. The presumption is that it appeared in the text before it could appear in the index, and my theory is that some one struck it out of the text—a theory that is not at all disproved by Mr. Finnemore's letter.

Yours, etc.

CONSTANT READER. (185/24.)

Chemists v. Stores, P.A.T.A. Intervening.

SIR.—Following up the letter of Mr. Sidney Snowdon, I should like to say that we small men have been waiting to see how the Association was going to benefit us. Now we see our chance of breaking the Bank of Monte Carlo is more hopeful than the prospects of making a living in competition with stores in the sale of P.A.T.A. articles. With the Council constructed as it is, the question arises whether the same amount of energy required on the part of us smaller men to bring about the desired conditions would not be better spent in establishing a public demand for a universal brand of our own proprietaries. Why be dependent upon profits which manufacturers will give to us when we ought to be manufacturers ourselves? Everyone must recognise the competition is not so much between retailers and stores, but with outside manufacturers who are displacing our own lines of business. No P.A.T.A. Council will ever elevate the pharmacist, and nothing but pure grit and ability will make us once more masters of our own business. Yours truly,

Hastings. A. E. BOLSHAW.

The Government Laboratory.

SIR.—Your editorial of January 21 bearing on the personnel of the Government Laboratory has created much interest. From its internal evidence it would appear you had tapped two or more different sources of information, but something remains unsaid. Perhaps it may conduce to clearness to state the method of staffing the Government Laboratory that has hitherto prevailed. Young Revenue officers after an average two years' experience in outdoor surveying work in the Customs and Excise competed in a written science examination for student-

ships at the Royal College of Science. The successful men became students, undergoing the prescribed course of instruction at that institution for two years, and had to pass the College examinations in inorganic, organic, physical, and analytical chemistry, each receiving his diploma as a qualified chemist at the end of the period. The Revenue students frequently topped the examination list. Indeed, they had to, otherwise the Government Laboratory authorities would have refused to admit to their lenches duffers or shirkers. Consequently this qualification course was always arduous and severe. The successful Revenue students passed into the Government Laboratory, but were not appointed to or recognised on the staff. They were required to perform chemical work there for at least the next three years in order that the Crown might get back in work value the cost of their chemical training. Now and then, but very rarely, a vacancy occurred on the regular staff, and the most brilliant young assistant got promoted. After a few years' sojourn at the Government Laboratory these assistants returned to the outdoor surveying branch of the Customs and Excise Department.

It will be thus seen that there was a continual ingress and egress of young men, the idea being to have a nucleus of trained chemists scattered throughout the United Kingdom who would be of special value to the Revenue by reason of their chemical knowledge when placed in charge of the many important and complex commercial interests which are subject to the supervision of the Crown. It is not disputed that this educational idea of the Treasury has been successful and borne good fruit. Commercial and Revenue interests have been materially improved, and many of these Revenue chemical men have advanced to the top of their profession, where their scientific training combined with their revenue experience has enabled them to be of the greatest assistance to their chiefs, including Chancellors of the Exchequer. But notwithstanding the good reaped by this leavening process it was deemed to be expensive. Perhaps it would be nearer the mark to put it this way: the chemical work at the Government Laboratory could be done cheaper. How? By employing untrained Revenue men. For the first time since its inception the Government Laboratory admitted under the régime of Sir T. E. Thorpe the untrained Revenue man to do chemical work. Looked at from the point of view of the Laboratory alone, the training of the men at the science schools may have been expensive; but looked at from the national point of view the training of these young men was a Revenue asset, and by no means expensive. The admission of the unqualified men was the signal for undoing the successful work of responsible and experienced advisers to the Board and the acceptance of ideas of men with little or no Revenue experience. Still the Government Laboratory was regarded as a training ground for aspiring young men desirous of acquiring experience in a special branch of Revenue business. Now the fiat has gone forth for all the Revenue men—trained, if not the untrained also—to go, sooner or later, and their places to be filled by men who have received a collegiate training in chemistry. As this substitution idea is in the interests of economy and efficiency, it means that these "collegians" will not be so highly paid as the supanted Revenue men. The salaries of the latter ranged round 110*l.* a year, so that economy dictates a less amount for the "collegians." It remains to be seen what sort of stratum this revised Government Laboratory is going to tap for 110*l.* a year; but while the powers that be are clinging on to the skirts of economy, why go so high as 110*l.* a year when there are plenty of men who would efficiently do the work for less? It is inconceivable for any man, collegian or otherwise, who is worth his salt to do otherwise than use the Government Laboratory of the future as a mere convenience for the time being, and should there be "stickers" content to accept this economical salary—well, then the Government Laboratory is welcome to these "constants." Presumably a group of these cheaper collegians are to work under the supervising eye of a trained analyst, and it is only fair that the increased responsibility of these chemical supervisors should be recognised in the form of increased salary.

Economical reforms of this nature outlined here have a knack of swelling the salaries of those at the top, while diminishing the salaries of those at the bottom, and it would be both instructive and interesting to learn whether this tendency has been at work in the Government Laboratory since the introduction of the untrained man. The birth, development, success, and credit of the Somerset House Laboratory, now called the Government Laboratory, have been due to Revenue men, and one of the cherished principles was the reservation of the personnel to members of the Revenue Service. It was always felt to be a privilege that the Excise officials should have the recruiting done in their ranks for the staff, and before to-day the Treasury has honoured the principals with letters of appreciation and money grants. The stiffness of the examination course deterred many from competing, and of late years little or no encouragement has been offered to juniors to "swat" for the mere acquisition of a chemical education. Indeed, every year spent at the laboratory bench has had to be made good in later years in order to overtake the studies of Revenue law and practice and acquire the diverse experience requisite for ultimate official advancement. With principles in operation, and may be agencies also, driving in the direction of separation, it is no wonder that inducements to juniors to undergo a two years' training should appear small and cease to attract with the same force as of yore. Well, the end of it all is that the day of separation has come, and the Service will be the loser. I am confident that this scheme would not have gone through without protest and fight had not the Customs and Excise Department as a whole been occupied with other and larger issues; but there is one aspect of the severance of the Government Laboratory from the Customs and Excise that demands the immediate attention of the Treasury and the Chancellor of the Exchequer: it is the great and irretrievable loss to them especially of the services of Revenue chemists, men who have been trained to establish and apply chemical data to Revenue laws and regulations. The chemist, pure and simple, may scoff at the combination and say it is all bunkum, but legislators and responsible departmental chiefs engaged in framing laws want the blend. In framing new laws or developing old ones a Chancellor of the Exchequer needs an adviser of tried experience possessing technical knowledge of a trader's business, and he wants advice as to how to raise his imposts, at what stage to apply them, whether there is scientific data available for establishing the charge, and how best to fit into a trader's operations so as to secure the interests of his Revenue with the least inconvenience to that trade. The analyst as an analyst will be able to determine the percentage of this and that, but he cannot advise on questions of application and administration, the fitting in of the various keystones necessary to the legislative edifice. The Revenue adviser with the chemical training is an indispensable asset to any Chancellor of the Exchequer, and to-day the need for this special scientific training becomes and will yet become increasingly urgent. Revenue laws nowadays are based on chemical data. Yet to-day the proposal is made to cut away the training necessary to the founding of this base and produce Revenue advisers in the future with a deficient education. Those who argue that a training in chemical knowledge is unnecessary for the performance of Revenue work are arguing against the value of education itself. Smatterings of chemical knowledge such as are obtained as a part of a school curriculum fall far short of a chemical training and a chemist's qualification, and if value be recognised, not mere monetary expenditure, the Revenue authorities have had returned to them the broadcast on the waters years before. The experience of the past teaches the wisdom of keeping to the old track so long as the track lasts, and there has been no urgent reason for this side-tracking business connected with the Government Laboratory. If the policy of the Treasury is to cut out trained chemical knowledge from the sphere of its Revenue staff and rely upon the theoretical knowledge of the entrants' examination it will be penny wise but pounds foolish, and the foolishness will recoil to the detriment of Revenue interests.

Yours truly,

CHEMICUS. (183/67.)

Subscribers' Symposium.

For questions, answers, incidents, and interchange of opinions among "C. & D." readers.

Chemists' Card-index Systems.

Would any of your readers who use the card-index system oblige with one or two cards as specimens? I have read the article in current *Diary* with great interest, and would like to adopt the system, and should be grateful for any information from any readers who use it.—J. H. Weston.

Doctors Dispensing.

The following incident may be of interest at the present time, while so much is being heard of doctors dispensing. A customer of mine had a very bad boil on the neck, so went to a doctor, who supplied a lotion. After finishing it he paid a second visit and was given a tonic. Both were supplied in the same bottle, the lotion-label being left on. I am sending the bottle for your inspection—T. W. D. (182/36.) [The bottle is a square 8-oz. graduated in tablespoonsfuls, the mixture-label being placed over the lotion-label. It is to be noted that the name and address of the doctor is not on either label. Any medicine containing poison dispensed by a doctor must bear his name and address, otherwise he is liable to prosecution under Section 17 of the 1868 Act.—EDITOR C. & D.]

Oil of Beno or Veno.

This may be a clerical error or due to a misreading. Oil of ben is naturally suggested. The name occurs in old writers as oil of benn and oil of behen, the last being due to a confusion with another plant, and "beno" is not an unlikely error in reading a bad hand. The oil, which is, or should be, obtained from the ben-nut, the seed of the horseradish tree (*Moringa pterygosperma*), is much used by watchmakers, and to some extent—though not, I believe, so much as formerly—by perfumers, its odourless and absorbent character rendering it particularly valuable as a vehicle. The nut had once a certain reputation in medicine as a purger of bile and phlegm, and the oil itself was also occasionally used. The dispensatories distinguish two kinds of nut, *Ben Magnum* and *Ben Parvum*, from the latter of which the oil was drawn. The Latin name of the oil was *Oleum balaninum*, the nut having been identified with the *Balanus myrcpsica* of Dioscorides. But the chief use of the oil was as a vehicle for perfumes. In the "Toilet of Flora," a collection of recipes published in 1779, the method employed is minutely described. A number of cloth strainers in frames, having been first thoroughly saturated with the oil, were placed one above another in a tin-lined box, the spaces between them being packed with the flowers from which the odour was to be extracted. These were renewed every twelve hours until the absorbent power of the oiled cloths was exhausted; the cloths were then put into a press, and the oil was squeezed out. The author says this process was especially used for such flowers as do not yield an essential oil on distillation. Halliwell, by the way, glosses oil of ben as "an ointment formerly in great repute: benzoin," and gives references to Doddsley, Cotgrave, and others; but these I have had no opportunity of verifying.—*Cheamicus.* (176/11.)

Legal Queries.

Consult the Legal Advice Section of "The Chemists' and Druggists Diary," 1911 p. 435, before writing about your difficulty.

Rook (178/69).—The circumstance which you mention does not make the slightest difference to the agreement between K and A. The circumstance existed at the time both signed the agreement, and, as you may have observed from a case reported in our issue of January 21, it is enforceable.

Lex (180/47).—A director or officer of a limited company is not capable of being appointed auditor of the company. Fourteen days' notice of the appointment of a person as auditor of a company at an annual meeting must be given except in the case of a retiring auditor.

Bach (157/4) asks: Is a mixture of liq. calcis sacch. coloured with sacch. ust., liable to stamp-duty if recommended? [Yes.] Is there any objection or danger in administering calcis hydras (1 grain) in tablet or cachet form? [It would in some conditions of the stomach cause serious injury.]

Mag. Sulph. (180/10).—The use of a registered design on a known, admitted, and approved remedy does not necessarily take the medicine out of the exemption; but a registered name certainly does, because that constitutes a claim to sole right to vend the medicine. You must judge from the facts which you know in regard to the carton if they are such as to prevent anyone except yourself selling the cure; if so, it must be stamped.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We do not as a rule repeat information given in this section during the past twelve months. When references are given to past issues, these should be consulted. Book numbers for the past five years can generally be obtained from our office at the published prices. We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles.

J. V. M. (155/28).—VANILLIN is easily soluble in concentrated and dilute alcohol. The usual strength for a *vanillin essence* is $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. To make it dissolve vanillin 5v. in rectified spirit 3xxv., and add distilled water 5x.

Rcr (161/8).—DOG-NUISANCE.—The several methods that have been suggested for keeping dogs from soiling shop-fronts consist in sprinkling round the doorway such things as freshly powdered ammonium carbonate, powdered cayenne, or powdered aloes. A subscriber, writing to the *C. & D.* a few years ago, stated that the use of powdered aloes has the effect of keeping dogs away for a week or more. The effect of ammonium carbonate is not so lasting.

Vet. (158/10).—POWDER FOR PREVENTING ABORTION IN CATTLE.—The active ingredient of this, according to our analysis, is cayenne. There are also present ferric oxide, madder, and linseed-meal. The powder is probably not intended for use in the epidemic form of abortion, and it is possible that the stimulating action of the cayenne may be of use. At the same time there may be other ingredients present which have escaped our notice.

L. L. (19/91).—LUPTON'S "BOOKE OF NOTABLE THINGS" was first published in 1579, and passed through numerous editions until 1793. The black-letter editions appeared up till 1631 at least. The fragment you send is part of the one issued in 1627, the full title being "A Thousand Notable Things of Sundry Sortes, Whereof some are Wonderfull, some straunge, some pleasant, divers necessary, a great sort profitable, and many very precious." The author, Thomas Lupton, is stated to have utilised a publication of Mizaldus or Mizauld, a French physician, with whose works, however, we are not acquainted. Lupton, who acknowledges Mizaldus many times in the course of the book, is one of those writers of whom nothing is known beyond the books they handed down to posterity.

Lotion (160/18) finds that a batch of LOTIO CALCIS SULPHURATA (MARTINDALE) deposits sulphur when mixed with a strong solution of sapo mollis (puré), although it has always been satisfactory on previous occasions. The alkalinity of the soap probably causes the difference, some of the clearer green soft-soaps being more alkaline than the B.P. allows. A soap containing little or no alkali would be more liable to decompose the polysulphides of calcium.

Nemo (175/70).—A non-poisonous NIT-OINTMENT may be made by mixing 2 drachms of extract of quassia with 1 lb. of carbolic ointment.

R. D. S. (184/21).—DIASCORDIUM is what you require. The simplest modern representation of it is pulv. catechu co. made into an electuary with syrup.

J. P. (177/19) asks for information of the action of EXT. CASCARÆ SAG. on the system. A lady who has taken 2 grains of the extract daily for a considerable time is covered with small warts, some coloured, and suffers intensely from itching of the skin. She complained at first of great roughness of the skin, like goose-flesh. [It is very doubtful if the medicine has anything to do with this. The original constipation is more likely to be the cause—auto-intoxication from the bowel. We would suggest a course of saline aperients, such as magnesium sulphate or an aperient mineral water, combined with a soap-and-water enema, given, say, twice weekly. Active exercise in the open air should be taken, and the diet should be plain, moderate in quantity, and have in it plenty of fruit, either cooked or raw.]

Scot (174/21).—We do not think that a pharmaceutical examiner would "plough" a candidate for putting liq. morph. hydrochlor. in a poison-bottle.

A. W. (168/12).—FIRE-RESISTING GLASS.—The fire-resisting qualities of glass depend upon the hardness. In a general manner soda glasses are harder than potash glasses containing equal proportions of silicea. With purely lime-soda glasses the hardness for the same proportion of silicea increases with the increase of lime and decrease of soda. Boric acid imparts great hardness to glass. With lead glasses the introduction of soda or lime considerably increases the hardness. Glass, however, readily succumbs to great heat, but can be replaced in many cases, such as chemical apparatus, by fused quartz or silica, the working of which has now reached a state bordering on perfection.

Commercial and Produce Notes.

South Australian Honey.

"The Board of Trade Journal" states that the bee-keeping industry in South Australia has made rapid progress during recent years. In districts where cultivation has not displaced the native timber large apiaries of from 500 to 800 colonies are to be found. Considerably over 1,000,000 lb. of honey was produced in 1909, and for the coming season many apiarists predict an exceptionally heavy yield. The bulk of the honey is consumed locally, but an overseas export trade has been built up, and, in anticipation of an increased production, orders have already been secured from several ports in England and on the Continent.

Russian Chemical Syndicate.

H.M. Commercial Attaché for Russia reports that, according to the official "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" (St. Petersburg), the Minister of Commerce on December 21 last confirmed the statutes of the Company for Promoting the Development of the Chemical Industry and Trade, with head office at St. Petersburg. Among the founders of this Society are twenty-two of the largest chemical manufacturers in Russia, centred in the St. Petersburg, Riga, and Warsaw regions. The aims of the syndicate are the protection and development of the Russian chemical industry in general.

Bulgarian Otto of Rose.

According to the British Consul at Sofia, the exports of otto of rose from Bulgaria during 1909 amounted to 13,314 lb., against 10,144 lb. in 1908 and 11,649 lb. in 1907. The distribution during the three years was as follows:

	lb.	lb.	lb.
France	4,004	3,128	5,139
Germany	1,735	1,672	2,721
United Kingdom	1,740	2,510	2,275
United States	2,508	1,918	1,830
Other countries	1,662	916	1,349
	11,649	10,144	13,314

New Swedish Spirit.

The newly established industry for the manufacture of spirit (see *C. & D.*, March 26, 1910, and April 9, p. 558) from the waste leys of sulphite wood-pulp mills is being rapidly developed in Sweden. The pulp-mills of Sweden are capable of producing annually about the equivalent of 25,000,000 litres of absolute alcohol; a mill at Larkrudden has already an output of 600,000 litres per annum, and it is shortly expected that this mill will be producing 1,200,000 litres per annum. It is admitted that the future prospects of the development of the industry will depend largely upon the cost of production, the amount of taxation, and the demand. The latter is of particular importance, for since the sulphite-pulp spirit is a sort of denatured alcohol, new industrial sources of consumption will have to be sought. The spirit can be produced at a cost of 1.2d. per litre, but as the tax on production becomes heavier as the production is increased, a mill producing 60 tons of cellulose a day would be able to produce 1.3 million litres per annum at a cost of about 17s. per 100 litres.

German South-West African Drugs.

A collection of native drugs has arrived in Hamburg from the Government of German South-West Africa, consisting of leaves and roots of various plants, which are used for food and medicines by the natives. They have been placed on show at the Botanical Museum, and are as follows:

TARRO (*Tellacia nastata*) belongs to the class of ferns. The leaves of this plant are used for making native tea.

GANEK (*Ocimum fructicosum*) is used for the same purpose.

GUMUS (*Babiana spec.*) is a species of bulb or onion, which is eaten raw or roasted, also.

UNKIES (*Cyperus usitatus*).—The roots of these two plants are roasted, finely ground, made into a pap, and used as food.

ZOVOMI (*Solanum incanum*).—This root is used by natives as a gonorrhœa-remedy; and the root of a shrub called "Heieb," which has not yet been botanically classified, contains a fluid or juice which is of great value in the dry season, when liquid food is scarce.

COPPER SULPHATE.—The production during 1910 amounted to 26,356,788 lb., against 45,000,000 lb. in 1909.

MR. R. A. EASTON, chemist and druggist, Market Square, Winslow, sends out to his customer a neat little triptych calendar and lighting-up table which is convenient for the pocket and a good advertisement. It has on the back a few apt quotations from well-known personages.

MEDICAL GLEANINGS.

Tuberculosis Treatment.

THE injection of sulphurous acid into the muscular tissues is advocated by Dr. Taleni, of Milan. He adds 0.5 per cent. of sodium bisulphite to artificial serum and injects from 2 to 5 c.c. at a time. The proportion of sodium bisulphite is slowly increased to 5 per cent. Dr. Taleni in some cases adds 1 per cent. of sulphurous-acid gas, and in others 5 per cent. of calcium chloride.

A New Skin-ointment.

BEFORE the Paris Society of Therapeutics, M. Monteil, of Montrichard, gave the particulars of a new ointment, which is made as follows : In an oil-bath of the temperature of 125° C. melt together antipyrin 188 parts, resorcin 110 parts, and terpine 180 parts. This gives a product of the consistence of oil, which on cooling changes to a transparent vitrious mass, which has the curious property of dissolving in glycerin to form an ointment resembling cold-cream. The product is antiseptic, without caustic properties, has a soothing effect on the skin, and on account of the presence of antipyrin is haemostatic. It is rapidly absorbed by the skin and is soluble.

Action of Hexamethylenamine.

BARTON in the "Boston Medical Journal" states as a result of experimental observations that hexamethylenamine is eliminated by the mucous membranes of the middle ear and accessory nasal sinuses, and that the drug would appear to be of considerable value in cases of acute suppurating otitis media and sinuses. The chronic forms are apparently benefited. Hexamethylenamine may prove to be a valuable prophylactic in those diseases commonly attended by otitis media; perhaps also a prophylactic to be used prior to surgical operations upon the middle ear, the mastoid, and sinuses of the nose.

Brittle Nails.

To harden brittle nails it is recommended to employ one of the following ointments at bedtime, the nails being covered with glove fingers :

1. Oil of mastic	... ...	26 parts
Salt	... ...	4 parts
Resin	... ...	3 parts
Alum	... ...	3 parts
Yellow wax	... ...	3 parts
2. Lanolin	... ...	10 grams
Zinc oxide	... ...	1 gram
Calcium glycerophosphate	... ...	1 gram
Sodium arsenate	... ...	0.05 gram
Pilocarpine nitrate	... ...	0.1 gram
Extract of nux vomica	... ...	0.5 gram
Cochineal	... ...	a sufficiency

Ipecacuanha in Dysentery and Hepatitis.

In the course of an abstract of a paper by Lieut.-Colonel H. W. Pilgrim on this subject the "British Medical Journal" (1910, p. 2039) states :

"The mode in which the drug is administered is of importance; the patient should not eat or drink anything for two hours before and after the dose, but twenty minutes previously he should take 20 grains of chloral; the dose of ipecacuanha is 30 grains for the first three or four nights, reduced to 25 and 20 grains gradually, a single dose daily being usually sufficient. If given in keratin capsules the patient suffers only for a short time from nausea, and if he lies absolutely still he usually drops to sleep under the influence of the chloral. When the leucocytosis has fallen to 10,000 or less, the temperature has become normal, and the discomfort in the region of the liver has disappeared, the drug may be continued for another week in daily doses of 20 grains, and then the patient be allowed to get up, and a few days later he may be sent away for a change of air: but all patients who have had such an attack should abstain from alcohol so long as they reside in India."

Tuberculin Ointment in Lupus.

MR. A. VERGE, F.R.C.S.E., describes in the "British Medical Journal" (1910, p. 2024) the effects of the application to cases of lupus of an ointment consisting of a 5-per-cent. solution of Koch's old tuberculin in a basis of soft paraffin. This ointment is well rubbed in from one

to two minutes, and a piece of linen or lint freely smeared with it is then applied and allowed to remain for twenty-four hours. A good deal of inflammation follows, as well as swelling, and ultimately small vesicles appear over the situation of the lupus nodules, which on rupturing leave small ulcers behind, showing that the nodules have been eroded. The treatment is then suspended and the inflammation allowed to subside under some soothing application. Healing is usually complete within ten days. Mr. Verge considers that as a means of diagnosis the application of tuberculin ointment is of undoubted value. Numerous control tests were made in many other forms of skin-diseases, such as psoriasis, lichen planus, syphilis, various forms of syphilis, dermatitis seborrhoeica, eczema, etc. In none of these did the typical reaction occur in the lesion, and the Moro reaction in the surrounding healthy skin was entirely absent. Therefore it may be fairly claimed to be a specific reaction occurring only in lupus.

Benzoate-of-mercury Injection.

THE freshly prepared benzoate of mercury which is needed for making the injection is first made as follows :

Yellow mercuric oxide	... 10 grams
Crystallised acetic acid	... 10 grams
Sodium benzoate	... 14 grams
Distilled water	... 200 grams

Dilute the acetic acid to 100 grams with distilled water, and dissolve in it the mercuric oxide by shaking. Dissolve the sodium benzoate in the rest of the water and add it to the mercury solution. Wash the precipitate until the water ceases to give an acid reaction, then dry the precipitate at 100° C.

The injection is then made as follows :

Mercuric benzoate,	
Sodium bromide	... of each 2 grams
Sterilised distilled water	to make 100 c.c.

This solution contains 0.02 gram of mercuric benzoate in each c.c. It is very stable in the cold, and can be sterilised at 120° C.

Colloidal Mercury.

DR. G. ARBOUR STEPHENS contributes to the "British Medical Journal" an article on the therapeutic advantages of using mercury in the colloid form. After reviewing the methods of administering mercury so as to obtain the advantages without the disadvantages, Dr. Stephens states that colloid mercury justifies the claim to be the most suitable for use. Colloids, he points out, are reversible and irreversible. By reversible is meant those whose solutions leave a residue soluble in water when dried at the ordinary temperature, and by irreversible those that yield an insoluble residue. To the former belong dextrin, gum arabic, etc., while the colloidal metals are irreversible. If solutions of reversible are added to those of irreversible colloids, the latter may become reversible, in which case they are often protected against precipitation by salts. In this way is explained the great value of adding gum arabic or barley-water to milk in order to prevent the coagulation of casein—at least in large masses. Colloid mercury comes under the heading of irreversible colloids. The author then deals with the preparation and physics of colloids, and gives the result of a bacterial test performed by Mr. Seyler, county analyst for Glamorgan, with colloidal mercury supplied by Merck. Mr. Seyler found that 1 in 1,000 of a 1-per-cent. solution stopped the growth of *Bacillus coli communis* on agar, which means that 1 in 100,000 of the drug is effective. Colloidal mercury is therefore a very powerful antiseptic. A 1-per-cent. solution is a greenish-brown transparent liquid, without smell, but with a faint metallic taste. It is non-irritant, non-corrosive, and relatively non-toxic. It can be used both externally and internally. For cleansing wounds it is applied in solutions of $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and in ringworm and alopecia areata it has shown very beneficial effects. In the last two cases grease is removed from the scalp with petrol before applying the drug. Colloidal mercury is very effective in foul mouths and diphtheritic throats. Internally it is of value in acute gastritis; for babies 3 minims of a 1-per-cent. solution in 1 drachm of water is given; for adults 20 to 30 minims. Dr. Stephens also claims great advantages from the use of colloidal mercury in syphilitic cases.

Tablet-making.

By David Dunnet.

GRANULATING the material in the usual method with a mixture of equal parts of mucilage of acacia, syrup (or syrup of glucose), and water, then drying, and perhaps afterwards spraying with a solution of liquid paraffin in ether, is quite impracticable as regards speed. It is, however, advisable where tablets are often called for containing varying proportions of phenacetin, salicin, and acid. acetyl-salicyl, etc., to keep those substances ready granulated. They can then be easily weighed out and mixed lightly with the addition (if necessary) of a few grains of French chalk to facilitate the running of the granules through the hopper of the machine and to prevent the mixture sticking to the dies. As mentioned in the "Year-book," 1908, by Mr. Woolcock, finely powdered boric acid is preferable to French chalk if a clear solution of the tablet is required. Crystalline salts, such as potassium iodide, ammonium bromide, salol, and hexamethylenetetramine, are peculiarly suitable for compression without any excipient; but the majority of drugs, and especially fine dry powders, require either a binding agent, a lubricant, or a disintegrator, and perhaps may need them all. The following is a list of suitable agents, and they are placed in each division in the order of what I have found to be, in my experience, the most useful:

Absorbents	{ Pulv. rad. althææ Pulv. glycyrrhizæ
Lubricants	{ Pulv. theobrom. co. (White and Robinson) Pulv. crete gallicæ
	{ Pulv. cacao Pulv. acid. boric. (subtil.)
Binders	{ Pulv. gum. acaciæ Pulv. theobrom. co. Pulv. sacch. alb.
Disintegrators	{ Pulv. amyli Pulv. theobrom. co. Pulv. maranta

Diluent of potent remedies ... Pulv. sacch. lact.

Compound theobroma-powder is the best agent of all, and was recommended several years ago by Mr. Edmund White, B.Sc., and Mr. R. A. Robinson, jun. It is made by melting one part of oil of theobroma and then adding three parts of powdered starch. It acts as a lubricant and partial binder of the material, and finally, when swallowed, as a disintegrator of the tablet. One-half to 1 grain per tablet is generally required. A theobroma emulsion has since been recommended; but I cannot say I have found it so handy at the dispensing-counter.

French chalk is occasionally of great service in getting the material to run through the hopper and feed evenly into the dies. It should be used sparingly, however, as otherwise it is apt to cause trouble by "capping"—that is, when two compressions are necessary you sometimes get two tablets instead of one. It is also very useful for rubbing the punches after every few tablets when there is a sticky ingredient present, and if the tablets are light in colour.

Cocoa-powder is a good lubricant, but unless prescribed is only permissible where the tablets are dark in colour, as one of the three valerianates would be. It is the very thing for rubbing the dies in making tablets containing large proportions of dark and sticky vegetable extract-powders. It also can be used as a flavouring-agent in formulæ such as the following, which make pleasant and efficient laxatives for children:

I.	II.
Phenolphthalein gr. ij.	
Pulv. cacao gr. ij.	
Pulv. gum. acaciæ gr. j.	
Fiat. tab.	
Pulv. rhei co. gr. iss.	
Hyd. c. creta gr. ss. (or more)	
Sodi bicarb. gr. iss.	
Pulv. cacao gr. ij.	
Pulv. gum. acaciæ gr. j.	
Fiat. tab.	

Gum acacia is used where the material does not possess sufficient cohesive power to compress, and although sugar is sometimes used for this purpose, it is apt to cause trouble

by sticking to the dies, and where a sweetening-agent is required saccharin is preferable.

Arrowroot, as it compresses readily, is also useful for running through the machine and making it cleaner than mere rubbing with a cloth may do. When the dies are not in use they should be kept coated with soft paraffin to prevent rust.

The following is an example of a formula which requires no addition whatever, as the ingredients combine to make a perfect tablet, although to try and make a tablet from pepsin or soda alone would be somewhat troublesome, to say the least of it. When pepsin is prescribed, the scale variety rubbed down is preferable to the powdered kind.

Pepsini	... ...	gr. ij. (binder)
Salol.	... ...	gr. ij. (lubricant)
Sod. bicarb.	... ...	gr. ij.

With the exception of throat tablets, which have to be sucked slowly and ought consequently to be made hard, the perfect tablet is one that is easily friable between the fingers, and yet not readily broken when thrown upon the counter. It is not possible, of course, to get a tablet like that with crystalline salts, but if arrived at with other materials there is no fear of the tablet not breaking up in the stomach. An absorbent will only be required where there is a fluorescent or hygroscopic ingredient present, such as carbolic acid or pepsin, or a fatty one, such as ricin. For $\frac{1}{2}$ grain of carbolic acid 1 grain of marshmallow powder would likely have to be added, the amount, however, depending largely upon the nature of the other ingredients.

Synthetic Remedies.—A fair tablet can generally be made by the addition of $\frac{1}{2}$ grain of compound theobroma-powder and $\frac{1}{2}$ grain of powdered gum acacia to each 5 grains of substance.



FLOWER-HARVESTS IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE.

This picture shows the gathering of Parma violets and violet-leaves, which takes place from February to April on the Côte d'Azur.

Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

Reprinted from "The Chemist and Druggist," February 15, 1861.

The Chemical History of a Candle.

A brief notice of the interesting course of lectures recently delivered by Professor Faraday at the Royal Institution will doubtless be acceptable to many readers of this journal. Though specially addressed to boys and girls, our great philosopher's exposition of the phenomena of a burning candle astonished and delighted "children of larger growth," even those familiar with the results of scientific research. In his first lecture Faraday thus defined the position which he intended to take throughout the course: "Though our subject be so great, and our intention that of treating it honestly, philosophically, and seriously, yet I mean to pass away from all those here who are seniors. I claim the right of speaking to juveniles as a juvenile myself. I have done it on former occasions, and if you please I shall do it again. And although I stand here with the knowledge of having the words I utter given to the world, yet that shall not deter me from speaking in the same familiar way to those whom I esteem nearest to me on this occasion." We sincerely hope that the Professor will for many years to come deign to play the part of a juvenile, and bring before the rising generation those grand truths of science which he has so materially helped to establish.

COMING EVENTS.

This section of the "C. & D." is reserved for advance notices of meetings or other events which are sent to the Editor by Wednesday of the week before the meetings, etc., occur.

Monday, February 6.

Society of Chemical Industry, London Section, the large theatre, King's College, at 8 P.M. Dr. F. Raschig on "The Chemistry of the Lead Chamber Process," illustrated by experiments.

International Union of Assistant Pharmacists, Birmingham Branch, Benson's Restaurant, Lower Temple Street, at 9 P.M. Ordinary meeting.

Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, London, W.C., at 8 P.M. Professor Adrian J. Brown on "Brewing and Modern Science" (Cantor Lecture).

Tuesday, February 7.

Leeds Chemists' Association, Royal Hotel, at 9 P.M. Monthly business meeting.

Leicester Chemists' Association, Turkey Café, Granby Street, at 8 P.M. Mr. Blockley will introduce a discussion on the draft scheme for instituting a curriculum.

London Pharmaceutical Association. Annual dinner.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., at 8 P.M. Dr. W. E. Dixon on "The Codex and the Medical Profession," and Mr. W. J. U. Woolcock on "The Codex and Pharmacy."

Wednesday, February 8.

Derby Chemists' Association, Bell Hotel, at 3.30 P.M. Mr. A. J. Chater will speak on "Pharmaceutical Politics." Tea at 5.30 P.M.

Glasgow Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association, 36 York Place, at 9.15 P.M. Mr. J. Tait, Ph.C., on "Arrow Poisons."

Leicester Pharmaceutical Association, Victoria Hotel, at 3 P.M. Discussion on draft scheme for dividing the Minor and instituting a curriculum.

Newcastle-on-Tyne Chemists' Association, Grand Hotel, Barras Bridge, at 7.30 P.M. Annual dinner.

Birmingham Pharmaceutical Association, George Hotel, at 9 P.M. Discussion on draft scheme for the division of the Minor and the establishment of a curriculum.

Thursday, February 9.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, Oxford Street, London, W., at 9 P.M. Mr. W. H. Robb, Ph.C., on "A Seventeenth-century Quack."

Cydon Pharmacists' Association. Mr. E. F. Harrison on "The Outlook for Pharmacy."

Sheffield Pharmacists' Association, White Lion Hotel, Underbank, at 7 P.M. Annual dinner. Tickets from Mr. T. O. Arnfield, Hon. Secretary.

First Ham Association of Pharmacy, London Tavern, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C., at 6.45 P.M. Annual dinner. Tickets (5s. each) from Mr. J. E. Evans, Hon. Secretary, 69 Leytonstone Road, E.

LEICESTER CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.—The annual dinner will be held on March 2 at the Oriental Café, Market Place, to which ladies are invited. Tickets from Mr. G. E. Marfitt, Hon. Secretary, Infirmary Square.

CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.—The annual Cinderella meeting is to be held in the International Hall, Café Monico, Piccadilly Circus, London, W. Tickets (3s. each) from the wards on Hon. Secretaries.

MANCHESTER PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.—A whist-drive is to be held at Lyon's Popular Café, Piccadilly, on February 15. Tickets (3s. each) from Mr. J. Grier, M.Sc., The University, or Mr. W. Griffiths Hughes, 17 Deansgate.

SCARBOROUGH ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACISTS.—The annual whist-drive and dance will be held at Brooklands, Esplanade Gardens, on February 16. Tickets (2s. each) from Mr. G. H. Bradley, Hon. Secretary, 9 and 11 Gladstone Road, Scarborough.

PETERBOROUGH ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACISTS.—The annual dinner will take place on February 16 at the Grand Hotel. Tickets (5s. each) from Mr. H. E. Noble, Hon. Secretary, Long Causeway. The annual meeting will be held earlier on the same day.

PLYMOUTH, DEVONPORT, AND STONEHOUSE ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACY.—A whist-drive will be held in the Palm Court, Royal Hotel, Plymouth, on February 15. Tickets (3s. each) from Mr. S. A. Perkins, Hon. Secretary, 15 Cumberland Street, Devonport.

NATIONAL UNION OF ASSISTANT PHARMACISTS, LIVERPOOL BRANCH.—A whist-drive will be held on February 15 in Kirkland's Café, Bold Street. Tickets (2s. each) from Mr. T. Ashworth, 87 Bold Street, or Mr. J. J. B. Waldron (Hon. Secretary), 427 Mill Street.

JUNIOR PHARMACY BALL.—The thirtieth Junior Pharmacy Ball is to be held at the Portman Rooms, Baker Street, London, W., on February 22, commencing at 9 P.M. Tickets (7s. 6d. each, including supper and light refreshments) from Mr. J. E. Southon, Hon. Secretary, 8 Leadenhall Street, E.C.

PERSONALITIES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. A. ASHFIELD, Ph.C., Shanklin, I.W., was installed W.M. of the Chine Lodge of Freemasons on January 26.

MR. WESTON POOLE, Ph.C., 47 High Street, Newcastle-under-Lyme, has been appointed a Justice of the Peace for the Borough.

MR. WILLIAM BUDDLES, 46 Churton Street, Belgrave Road, London, S.W., has received a warrant of appointment as chemist to His Majesty King George V.

MR. ERNEST J. PARRY, B.Sc., F.I.C., F.C.S., 56A Great Dover Street, London, S.E., wishes us to state that he has no connection whatever with any analyst of the same surname.

COUNCILLOR ERNEST H. BARRITT, Ph.C., 1 High Street, Colchester, President of the local Chemists' Association, and an ex-Mayor of the town, was on Wednesday elected an Alderman.

DR. J. M. MASON, formerly Chief Medical Officer of New Zealand, and now Consulting Medical Officer to the Dominion, was called to the Bar on January 26 as a member of Gray's Inn.

THE LATE MR. JAMES RICHARD PHILPOTTS, chemist and druggist, Newnham, Glos., who died on October 16 last, aged seventy-nine, left estate valued at 1,491*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* gross, with net personalty 577*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*

MR. FRANCIS D. PHILLIPS, pharmacist, of Market Street and Castle Square, Haverfordwest, has been appointed secretary of the Cambrian Lodge, Haverfordwest, No. 464. Mr. Phillips was also unanimously re-elected director of the Haverfordwest Starr-Bowkett Building Society on January 30.

MR. W. THIRLBY, of Leicester, asks us to correct a misstatement in the references to him last week. In August 1873 he left Messrs. Clark, Nettleship & Bailey, and on September 1 commenced business in partnership with Miss Tyers at 2 Highcross Street, where the business was carried on till the end of 1883, when it was transferred to 4 Southgate Street and Miss Tyers retired. Mr. Tyers opened at 2 Highcross Street on March 6, 1885, so this business is the second oldest in the town. Messrs. Clark, Nettleship & Bailey are still in Belvoir Street, where they have been for fifty years or more.

NINE JAPANESE PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENTISTS have arrived in Berlin to further pursue their studies. A group photograph, which was taken on their arrival, appears in a Japanese contemporary.

FURTHEST SOUTH.—Mr. S. Mitsuidokoro, pharmacist and graduate of the Osaka Pharmacy School, has joined Lieutenant Shirase's South Polar expedition, which left the bay of Tokyo on November 28 per *Kainan Maru*. Mr. Mitsuidokoro is the chief pharmacist of the party, and received a sum of money contributed by the Alumni Society of the school.

THE TOYAMA PREFECTURE PHARMACY ACADEMY was founded on November 22 under the Semmon Gakko or Academy Act. The building cost 22,627 yen. Mr. M. Hirayama, doctor of pharmacy, has been appointed director. This is the first pharmacy school organised under the Act. Students must be graduates of the Cho Gakko or the Middle School, or must have passed the State examination before entry.

Analytical Notes.

WE have received from Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., 56 Hanover Street, Liverpool, advance copies of their yearly report on the work done in their analytical laboratories. It is an octavo of eighty-eight pages, including an index of nine pages to this report and the four which have preceded it. The "Notes" are of much interest and value. The following paragraphs are abstracted from them in illustration of the information which they give to chemists who buy and who do not pretend to be analytical or pharmacopeial authorities, to the latter of whom the "Notes" particularly appeal:

"ACETYL SALICYLIC ACID.—The purity of this substance is now quite satisfactory, the m.p. only ranging from 134°-135°. Isomers are evidently still on the market. One sample extracted from a proprietary article melted at 83°.

"BAY OIL.—The quality of this oil is not as high as formerly. Seven genuine samples fell within the limits: Sp. gr. 0.960 to 0.990; opt. rot. -0° 36' to -3° 20'; and ref. index 1.5108 to 1.5173. Five samples were adulterated, some being complicated mixtures of such substances as spike lavender, eugenol, etc.

"BELLADONNA-PLASTERS (SPREAD).—Even using a standardised extract, manufacturers at times do not so fully allow for deterioration of atropine as to secure 0.5 per cent. in the finished product. It is an open question whether mass or concentration of the alkaloid is the more important—*i.e.*, a thickly spread plaster, even if somewhat under strength in atropine, has probably a more lasting physiological effect than a thinly spread plaster containing a full percentage of alkaloid, although the latter is perhaps more rapid in action.

"CITRIC ACID.—Over forty samples were tested, the purity falling within the limits:

	Lead.	Ash.	Sulphuric Acid.
English ...	... 0.0005% or less	0.01 to 0.05%	0 to 0.1%
Foreign ...	... 0.0005% ..	0.01 to 0.2%	0 to 0.25%

English acid is as a rule a better colour. Acids have been offered with as high a lead content as 0.002 per cent. In general crystals are slightly purer than powdered acids.

"ETHYLENE CHLORIDES.—A sample of perchlorethylene (C_2Cl_4) examined had a sp. gr. 1.603; b.p. 110°-121°. This compound is non-inflammable. An excellent solvent for fats, resins, and alkaloids, but difficult to volatilise. A sample of trichlorethylene was examined with sp. gr. 1.470; b.p. 85°-90°. It will not volatilise on a water-bath from a beaker, and is markedly toxic. The solvent power of both these compounds is remarkable, they for example being superior even to acetone on dried paints; but they have also, unfortunately, disadvantages.

"HELEBORE.—One sample of white powder, from a Continental source, was offered at an abnormally cheap price. When subjected to microscopical examination it became evident that a coloured foreign fibrous tissue was admixed with the powder of the rhizome and roots of *Veratrum album*.

"IRISH MOSS.—One selected sample left 17 per cent. of ash, and contained $\frac{1}{2}$ grain of arsenic per pound. One faked sample of ground moss offered at a cheap rate left 35 per cent. of ash, containing a great deal of calcium sulphate; its gelatinising value was about 60 per cent. below normal.

"MALT EXTRACT.—Samples of malt extract with cod-liver oil contained only 0.85 per cent., 0.6 and 3.1 per cent. respectively of cod-liver oil.

"NUX VOMICA (LIQUID EXTRACT).—In a comparison of alkaloidal strengths of extracts sold by well-known manufacturers an extraordinary variation was observed, ranging from 1.1 per cent. to 1.5 per cent. of strychnine, by titration. Similar variations, ranging from 59.7 to 69.7 per cent. of absolute alcohol, were also obtained, indicating the advisability of fixing in this and other liquid extracts a minimum percentage of alcohol in the product.

"OPIUM.—Thirteen consignments were assayed, and contained morphine 9.7 to 12.4 per cent. in their natural moist condition, the moisture in fresh imports varying from 23 to 29.7 per cent.

"PAPAIN, unlike pepsin, is more active in faintly alkaline media, this being contrary to certain published results.

"PERU BALSAM.—One sample, although a direct import, consisted substantially of a synthetic mixture. Another was evidently a mixture of artificial and natural balsams. It is quite evident that ordinary work will not establish the extent of adulteration.

"RENNET-POWDER.—In a comparison of the coagulatory powers, on milk, of well-known English and Bavarian rennets, we have found the range of activity to vary from a capacity of coagulating 5,000 to 166,000 times their own weight of milk.

"SODIUM SULPHITE.—The photographic grades of this salt are sometimes offered with a purity of only 83 per cent., whereas the purest samples contain 92 to 99.8 per cent."

The analytical figures and remarks regarding the following articles are especially noteworthy: Aniseed oil, asafetida, beeswax (white and yellow), camphor oil (essential), chamomile oil, cinnamon oil, cod-liver oil, copaiba balsams (most valuable records), ethyl butyrate, eucalyptus oils, juniper-berry oil, lanoline, lemon oil, lemon-grass oil, liquorice juice, olive oil, peach-kernel oil, peppermint oil, pine oils, and rose oil. We understand that copies of the Analytical Notes are being sent to members of the trade.

Cardiff Pharmaceutical Association

THE annual dinner took place at the Angel Hotel, Cardiff, on Wednesday, January 25, when there was a good company. The President (Mr. Leo Joseph), in proposing the toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain," said the Society had so raised the standard of its examinations that for many years past there had been a dearth of apprentices. This was no reflection on the members of the Council, because every reasonable person must recognise that the higher the standard of education, and the better the equipment in scientific knowledge, so much more was it to the advantage of the public. (Hear, hear.) He thought the proposed division of the Minor examination was a step in the right direction. He also commended the formation of a local associations committee as tending to foster a closer relationship between local associations and the parent Society. Mr. Joseph also commended the Benevolent Fund, and alluded to the fact that in the annals of the Pharmaceutical Society there was, so far as he was aware, no record of any Welshman ever having occupied the presidential chair. Such a fact appeared to him to be, not another injustice to Ireland, but to gallant little Wales. (Hear, hear.) The chair had been filled by Englishmen only, and perhaps that was necessary, but the vice-presidency was occupied by a Scotchman. Wales had never yet been fortunate enough to secure this coveted position, and he thought its turn had come. (Hear, hear.)

The toast was acknowledged by Mr. E. T. Neathercoat, who said he was glad to find the Cardiff Association in such a flourishing condition. He had always claimed that the history of the Society had been one of progress, notwithstanding it had had to meet almost insurmountable difficulties, and had not had that full volume of support to which it was entitled. He spoke of the work done by local associations and what the Council is doing in that regard. Referring to the proposed curriculum, he said that personally he held that the Council should proceed in this matter very carefully and very slowly. (Hear, hear.) The fact that it was remitted to local associations did not imply that the scheme represented the views of the whole of the members of the Council, but he hoped the scheme would tend to their material interests, and at the same time be the means of raising the calling which they practised. (Hear, hear.) Mr. A. Hagon also responded, devoting his remarks mainly to the Benevolent Fund, with the object of increasing the interest of members in it.

"The City of Cardiff" was proposed by Mr. J. Murray and responded to by the Lord Mayor (Alderman C. H. Bird). Mr. W. R. Hopkins (Barry) proposed "Kindred Associations and the Visitors." He said that at dinners attended by members of the medical profession he always noticed that medical men said that their work was to prescribe, and that of the chemists to dispense. Pharmacists re-echoed that sentiment, and they wished it to be made a matter of etiquette. (Hear, hear.) In his opinion any doctor who dispensed as well as prescribed was a blackleg in his profession. (Hear, hear.) He appealed to the young men present to maintain the best traditions of their profession. There were a number of businesses that affected their livelihood, and they should do all they could to foster the best understanding between the different professions. He believed the time would come when both the medical and dental professions would be glad of their services. Mr. Evans, President, and Mr. Williams, Secretary of the Bath Association, and Mr. Evan Jones (Llanelli) responded.

"The Cardiff and District Pharmaceutical Association" was proposed by Mr. Neathercoat and responded to by Mr. E. Poole and Mr. D. M. Williams. The concluding toast was the health of the President, who was congratulated on the fact that that day was his birthday, and that the company had the pleasure of seeing his father with them, which brought forth an interesting speech from Mr. S. W. Joseph. The proceedings were diversified by an excellent musical programme.